

A Long Step To War

An Editorial

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S plan to "lend" arms to Great Britain is another long step into the war itself.

The memory of how loans led the country into the last war, is still fresh in the minds of the American people. That is why Congress was compelled to enact certain safeguards—the Johnson Act and the loan ban in the Neutrality Act—to hinder a repetition of 1917.

President Roosevelt knows that the American people would not stand for wiping these measures off the statute books. He knows that even such a proposal from the White House would give the people an insight into his war plans and raise a storm of protest from one end of the country to the other.

Hence this latest scheme which the President has produced out of his hat and which is intended to give Britain those billions of dollars which the American people are opposed to giving.

If anything, this latest plan is an even more war-like step than credits. It means that not only would the United States be financing the war abroad, but that the war would actually be waged with equipment belonging to the United States. The Administration would be throwing down a challenge to Hitler to recognize the United States as in a state of war against Germany.

THE President says that he wants to "remove the dollar sign" from the question of aid to Britain. But the dollars would still be there. They would come directly out of the pockets of the common people and would go into the pockets of the munitions manufacturers. The people themselves would be footing the bill for this huge gift to the rulers of the British Empire.

The President says that the military supplies would be "returned" by Britain after the war or "replaced" if they are damaged. This is an insult to the intelligence of the American people. How can you return ships that end up at the bottom of the ocean? Or bombs that are dropped on German cities? Or planes that are shot down by the opposing air-fleet?

And as for Great Britain replacing the "damaged" goods, the rulers of the British Empire have no more intention of doing this than they had of repaying the loans of the last war.

Despite the sweet phrases of "neighborliness," with which the President presents his scheme, the facts of the transaction show it to be a sordid one—what one would expect from two imperialist powers who are uniting for war against a third imperialist, but each of whom is out for himself. Behind the scenes, American imperialism would be making the British Empire pay through the nose—in the form of naval bases whereby Wall Street would fasten its clutches upon the entire Western Hemisphere, steal British markets, and further enslave the people of Latin America as well as of the United States.

All the talk about Britain being at the end of its financial resources, is another hoax. Britain has billions invested in North and South America—upon which American imperialists are keeping a greedy eye. Meanwhile lurking in the background of the entire transaction, is the possible threat by Britain, the "outpost of democracy," that unless it receives full aid, it will suddenly switch partners in this bloody scramble for empires and loot, and join up with Hitler.

UP TILL now, every proposal of the President for further involvement in the war has been presented to the people under the deceptive slogan of "steps short of war." But this time, the President does not even bother to speak of "short of war." Now, apparently, it is all possible aid to Britain regardless of the consequences.

What those consequences will inevitably be, unless the people call a halt in time, are well known to all who have the slightest acquaintance with the facts of 1917 and the behind-the-scenes plotting of J. P. Morgan, President Wilson and Secretary of State Lansing.

The American people, especially the labor movement, must speak out before it is too late. The CIO convention went squarely on record to maintain the peace of the United States. Even the AFL leaders felt compelled to speak out against involvement in the war. But what is the President's scheme if not involvement? Can the labor movement afford to wait until American troops are actually on the way, before it wakes up to the fact that promises have once again been broken and peace betrayed by a set of bankers and an Administration determined to hurl the American people into a war for empires?

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Weather

Local—Cloudy with slowing rising temperature; southerly winds.
Eastern New York—Cloudy followed by light snow and colder.
New Jersey—Cloudy with slowly rising temperature.

Murray Offers Plan On 'Defense' Industries

Proposes FDR Establish 'Industry Councils' and New Board

(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)
WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—Philip Murray, President of the CIO, today submitted to President Roosevelt, to members of the Cabinet and to the Defense Commission a plan "for strengthening the National Defense program."

Murray proposed that the President should "establish a council for major basic and vital defense industry," to be known as an Industry Council.
"Each Council," the plan submitted by Murray said, "shall consist of an equal number of representatives of management and of the labor union in the industry, together with one government representative, the latter to serve as chairman."

To supervise and coordinate this new set-up Murray proposed that the President should establish a national defense board "consisting of equal numbers of representatives for industry and organized labor of which the President shall be the chairman."

CIO OFFICERS APPROVE
This plan was endorsed by the executive officers of the CIO, including secretary James B. Carey and the six vice-presidents, at a meeting here yesterday.

Murray outlined the objectives of his plan as follows:
"1. To guarantee the production of armaments in needed quantities and on time, by achieving the highest possible productive efficiency of American industry, through the full and complete cooperation of industry, organized labor and government."

"2. To guarantee the production of domestic, or non-military goods in adequate quantities so as to further improve and extend the American standard of living through a more equitable distribution of the national income, thereby improving the morale of the American people, and preventing a chaotic breakdown of our domestic economy when the national defense program is completed."

TO PRESERVE RIGHTS
"3. To preserve the basic democratic rights of the American people; namely, the freedoms of speech, assembly and worship and the free right to organize into independent associations for lawful purposes, such as the right of labor to organize into unions of its own choosing for collective bargaining and other mutual protection."
Murray said that "full and complete cooperation of industry, organized labor and government in

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Appointees to N.J. Draft Boards Hit

Group to Push Probe Despite Threats from Army

NEWARK, N. J., Dec. 18 (UP).—The Good Government Council, a statewide league of 22 civic organizations, ignored a warning from Army draft officials today and set out to investigate the appointment of a man with a police record and a youth of draft age as draft co-ordinators.

Lieut. Col. Edgar H. Bloomer, assistant state draft director, said the Federal Government alone had power to investigate the draft machinery and that if any unauthorized investigators interfered they would be prosecuted.

Kenneth V. Knapp, chairman of a committee of trustees of the Good Government Council and chairman of a local draft board, replied:

"This is still a free country. We're not at war. This is the first time in the history of this country that, because a government agency was criticized, it threatened to throw its critics in jail."
The council was concerned with the appointment of a man said to have served three months in jail in 1922 for receiving stolen goods and to have been placed on probation in 1928 on a lottery charge, and of James Foran, son of Arthur F. Foran, president of the State Senate, as co-ordinators to advise local draft boards at a salary of \$2,600 a year. Foran is 25. He is married and has one child.

Rail Magnate Sets Up 'Charity,' Ducks Taxes On \$5,000,000

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18 (UP).—A Senate interstate commerce committee reported today that George Ball, Indiana glass jar manufacturer, avoided income and inheritance taxes on \$5,000,000 profit realized in the sale of Allegheny System railroad securities.

Sens. Burton K. Wheeler, D. Mont., and Harry S. Truman, D. Mo., members of the subcommittee, noted that Ball established a charitable foundation which enabled him to avoid taxes on the profit, which was equivalent to 1,200 per cent on the transaction. Ball acquired control of the Allegheny System Sept. 28, 1935, and realized his profit May 5, 1937.

Emergency Peace Parley To Be Called

APM Sees Loans Looming as Greater Danger to War Involvement

(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)
WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—The American Peace Mobilization laid plans today for an emergency conference against involvement in war to be held in Washington in mid-January to protest the "deadly danger" of proposals to "lend" war supplies to Great Britain.

The conference, Peace Mobilization officials said, would bring to Washington representatives of trade unions, churches, fraternal clubs, youth groups and other progressive organizations, whose membership "is united in one great determination that the United States shall not be involved in another European war."

"The representatives of many millions of Americans will gather here with but one purpose in mind," a Mobilization spokesman, Frederick V. Field, executive secretary of APM, said, "to make clear to the administration and to Congress that all steps leading to that bloody end, under no matter what dubious disguise, must be halted at once."

Field declared that the most immediate of the steps to war to be protested by the conference is the proposal, hidden behind the "childish subterfuge of responsible government heads," to give loans and credits to England.

"The people are not blind to the deadly danger of such an act, behind which stands the open face of war," he said, "nor will they stand idly by while politicians drag the nation to war to safeguard investments of munitions makers."

NO SUBJECT FOR JOKES

Field added that the plan proposed by President Roosevelt to "lease" war supplies to Great Britain "would be amusing in its childish simplicity, if it were not so deadly serious."

"The experience of the last war showed," he said, "that the industrialists of this country cannot trust the 'proud' Britons to pay off their debts to this country. Rather than run the old chances over again, therefore, these good businessmen now insist that our own government guaran-

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Six Army Fliers Die In Crash of Bomber

MARCH FIELD, Cal., Dec. 18 (UP).—Six army fliers were killed today when a B-17 four-engine "flying fortress" crashed on a mountain slope about five miles north of Idyllwild during a routine training flight.

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LONDON WOMEN DEMAND CHEAPER FOOD; LACK OF SHELTERS DENOUNCED

'NOT MY ROAD'

--by Ellis



550 Aircraft Workers Win Fight for Pay

UAW Signs 75-Cent Minimum for Briggs Employees

(Special to the Daily Worker)
DETROIT, Dec. 18.—Leo Laskotte, United Auto Workers regional director, today signed a union agreement covering 550 aircraft employees of the Briggs Manufacturing Co. that will give the workers a minimum wage of 75 cents an hour for men and 65 for women.

Compared with the recent top wages obtained in the Vultee aircraft plants several weeks ago of 65 cents, this Briggs agreement creates a new high in wages in the country for aircraft.

The company also agrees to pay before Christmas, \$40 to each hourly employee with one year or more seniority in lieu of a vacation with pay for 1941. One hundred and fifty employees will benefit from this.

A general wage increase of 2 cents an hour is given all employees. Other adjustments for skilled work-

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British Cut Through Libyan Border Forts

Desert Offensive Presses on Toward Derna as 'Bardia Outposts Fall, London Claims; Rome Says Planes Bomb British Fleet'

CAIRO, Dec. 18 (UP).—Britain's desert offensive to-night was reported to have crashed through a maze of Italian trenches and concrete pillboxes protecting the Libyan base of Bardia while Fascist troops fled westward along the coast under terrific air and naval assaults.

An official British communiqué said that Marshal Rodolfo Graziani's fascist forces were fleeing westward toward Derna, ancient Mediterranean port 175 miles deep into Libyan territory, under merciless bombardment.

Britain's land, sea and air forces united in smashing attacks today at Italy's African forces all the way from mid-Libya to the Gulf of Aden to the south and there was speculation of a big-scale move from Kenya against the boundary of Italian Ethiopia.

Heavy fighting was occurring along the Kenya-Ethiopia border where 50 Italians were reported killed and 75 captured in an attack on the Italian base of El Uak. Although British mechanized

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Housewives' Delegation Lodge Protest with Food Minister

HIT MILK SHORTAGE

Bishop Leads Attack on Shelter Inadequacies in House of Lords

(By United Press)
LONDON, Dec. 18.—A delegation of angry housewives, organized by the London district of the Communist Party, protested violently at the Food Ministry today against the high price and shortage of milk as the Bishop of Birmingham led an attack in the House of Lords on the Government's provision for air raid shelters.

The housewives, headed by Mrs. N. C. Wolff, a member of the Hammer-Smith borough council, were received by Sir Henry French on behalf of Lord Woolton, Food Minister. When he said he could give the deputation half an hour, they protested.

The women criticized a shortage of milk supplies in schools, where free milk is given children by the government, and of the high price of milk in shops. Throughout their stay in the Ministry they heckled Sir Henry when he attempted to speak. When he rose at the end of the allotted half hour, they became angry.

SHOUT DEMANDS

Sir Henry asked Dr. Magee, a Health Ministry official who was with him, if he wished to remain and discuss with the women the free provision of cod liver oil, which had been asked by the women. Magee declined.

"Shame!" "Disgraceful!" shouted the women, some of whom rushed to the door to bar his exit. The doctor forced his way through.

The women then marched down six flights of stairs, disdained to use the elevators, shouting: "We Want More Milk!" "We Want Cheaper Milk!" When they reached the ground floor lobby a policeman assigned to the Food Ministry ushered the delegation from the building.

The Bishop of Birmingham told the Lords that the government's air raid shelter policy had failed.

"Our people are showing great endurance, but there is a growing feeling that protection is less satisfactory than it might be," he said. "The government's policy has failed."

Baron Burnham, a Conservative, supported the bishop by calling the government's policy "desolating."

Leadership in the fight for safe and adequate air raid shelters since the inception of the war has been given by the Communist Party, which has been vigorously supported in its demands by the people. Main demand of the Communist Party is for the installation of the so-called Haldane Shelter, which is bomb-proof, in place of the Anderson Shelter now provided by the government and which offers little protection. The Haldane Shelter is named after its inventor, Prof. J. B. S. Haldane, a member of the editorial staff of the London Daily Worker.

The bishop expressed dissatisfaction with the Government's failure to provide safer shelter in industrial areas which, he said, would arouse widespread misgivings.

Big Business Now Has a Super Lobby In Washington: The Defense Commission

(This is the first of a series of articles on the activities of the National Defense Advisory Commission.)

By Adam Lapin

(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—The staid gray building of the United States Chamber of Commerce, little more than a stone's throw from the White House, used to be headquarters of the outstanding business lobby in Washington.

Out of the offices of the Chamber of Commerce would pour monotonously, and continue to pour, statements demanding more profits for business and repeal of social legislation protecting labor.

But these are boom days for the industrialists and bankers of the nation, and for their lobbyists in Washington.

Never before have there been as many representatives of America's corporate interests congregated in

Washington as there are today. And never before has the lobby of big business in the capital been as powerful as it is today.

So the thriving lobbyists of Washington now have a new name for their set-up, and new headquarters for their activities.

The new offices of the big business lobbyists in Washington are in the cool, white marble building, flanked by two statuesque black fountains against an approach of more white marble, which was formerly the exclusive domain of the Federal Reserve Board.

And the new name of the powerful business lobby that has taken Washington by storm is the National Defense Advisory Commission.

In this series of articles it will be shown that it is no

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U.S. Workers Aid Canadians' Fight Against Lockout

62 Locked Out at Windsor Plant for Picketing; Others Work Under Guns of Police Inside Chrysler Auto Plant in Canada

By William Allan
(Special to the Daily Worker)

WINDSOR, Canada, Dec. 18.—Canadian auto workers here are high in their appreciation of solidarity actions by American trade unionists who have contributed more than \$2,000 to aid the 62 locked out Chrysler workers employed at the Corporation's plant here.

A valiant struggle for the right to strike and picket is being waged here. Sixty-two employees have been locked out for demanding seniority rights, agreed to by the company a long time ago.

Forty-six of the workers stand convicted in a Windsor court, of picketing the plant. This "democratic" Canadian government says is a criminal offense because "loitering" around a plant working on defense contracts.

Only 5 per cent of the work being done in this plant is defense work.

On Nov. 7 union workers in the Windsor plant of the Chrysler Corporation, after signing a petition demanding seniority rights, were handed "quit slips" by the company supervisor. The petition was signed by 62 men in one department, who protested certain seniority violations.

On Nov. 8 a strike vote was to be taken by the UAW-CIO. On that day 700 soldiers with rifles and full equipment were paraded thru the plant. Also parading around the plant were several hundred Canadian Provincial police.

This mass intimidation was carried further, when police and Army agents right in the plant contacted every foreign born worker and told them bluntly that if they went from the shop that day to the union hall and voted for strike they would be all put into concentration camps.

At the union hall, strikers told me, truck loads of soldiers and police were stationed stopping workers who were going in and asking them for names and badge numbers. The next day the 62 men who signed the petition were locked out by the Corporation.

They threw a picket line around the plant. The Windsor police's "Red Squad" were immediately on the job and arrested 15 of the men picketing. That afternoon 42 more went on the line and were again arrested. They were tried next morning in Windsor court, fined \$25 for "loitering" around a plant making defense products.

TALK FORBIDDEN

A visit to the plant revealed that inside where men are working, there were stationed several hundred provincial police. They stand in the aisle, on raised platforms and other conspicuous points. If several workers happen to congregate for even a minute, the police are right there ordering them to break it up.

Bitter resentment showed in the faces of the workers at the Canadian brand of Fascism. "We want no part of their bloody war," said one of them. "We want our union rights, these people are deliberately smashing unionism here."

Asked what can be done in the United States to help, they said, "tell the Detroit auto workers we are grateful for the several thou-

sand dollars that they have sent; to keep the boys going who are locked out."

"We are getting a taste of 'democracy' at the Churchill here and we must let the American trade union movement know what Canada, that is supposed to be fighting for democracy is really doing to democracy."

ADDS CITES DANGER

International Secretary-Treasurer George Addes of the UAW-CIO had this to say in the pages of the "United Auto Worker," Dec. 16: "We are very much interested in what is happening in Windsor, Canada, because if labor's rights can be trampled there, the same thing will be attempted here."

Addes further stated, "Our Canadian workers will be at the mercy of ruthless profiteering employers unless the right to picket and peaceful assembly is restored."

Speaking at Ottawa about labor conditions at present in Canada and the Windsor lockout, Angus McInnis, M. P. for Vancouver East, states that employees should be free to negotiate with employers and that the Government should put into effect and enforce the Order-In-Council act. McInnis statement before the House is as follows:

"Words mean to them (the workers) just what the words seem to mean, and they accept them at their face value. The workers did not know that the order-in-council which the government passed in July last was merely WINDOW DRESSING and was accepted by the government as being just that. The leader of the opposition, (Mr. Hanson), I imagine, would call it eye-wash, but many of the workers have another word for it, which, if I were to use it, would be considered unparliamentary and I should have to withdraw it. McInnis added:

"All the Nazi-minded people are not in Germany. Many of them can be found at the head of Canadian industries. The first thing the Nazis do when they get control anywhere is to destroy the protective institutions which the workers have built up through the years. Trade unions, labor parties, cooperative movements—all these go."

"But I want to ask you, Mr. Speaker, what is the difference between the philosophy of the man who crushes the labor movement and the man who will not allow the labor movement to come into existence? What is the difference?"

"NO DIFFERENCE WHATSOEVER. The mind of one is the mind of the other. Both minds are totalitarian in every respect; totalitarian in every sense of the word."

"The mind of one is the mind of the other. Both minds are totalitarian in every respect; totalitarian in every sense of the word."



Coordinating U. S. Tank and Air Arm: The U. S. Army closely coordinates the work of anti-tank and anti-aircraft batteries during maneuvers at Fort Meade, Md. The anti-tank gunners are protected from dive bombers by heavy caliber machine guns.

Mayor Hints U.S. Heading Toward War

Talks Vaguely of Plots to Invade America; Off to Capital

Mayor LaGuardia, addressing 225 members of the Grand Jury Association of New York County, yesterday implied the United States was headed toward war.

"We are living in very trying times just now," he declared. "No one knows what we are heading into and the choice will not be ours."

"What happens probably will not be of our liking or our choosing." The Mayor, who dashed off to Washington following his speech, told the Jury Association the U. S. will have to meet the efficiency of the warring nations.

TALKS OF DANGERS

He launched into war-like declarations coupled with pleas for defense of the Western Hemisphere. "We dare not permit any change in sovereignty of one bit of any land of South, Central or North America."

His voice rose to a high pitch as he warned against mythical forces attacking U. S. coasts. "It is no longer just the matter of sovereignty over an island and it is much more important than a trade advantage," he said. "It establishes a proximity for an attack which would be most important in the new methods of war."

He frightened the jury associates with diplomatic talk about "new alliances" that have "increased our difficulties," and added:

"We have more to protect than any other people in the entire world. We cannot afford inefficiency and waste any longer. We cannot afford to blunder along. The United States will have to meet efficiency and economy caused by new world conditions in order to exist."

Report Greeks Take Key Base in South Albania

Klisura, Strategic for an Italian Drive, Said to Be Taken After Furious Close Range Battle; Losses Heavy on Both Sides

BELGRADE, Dec. 18 (UP).—Klisura, Italian base in southeast Albania and key to a Greek drive on Berat, was reported at the frontier today to have fallen to the Greeks after a bloody clash.

(The Greek War Ministry in Athens reported that Klisura was under Greek artillery fire and flames were raging in the city.) After routing Italians from the town 10 miles east of Tepelini, border dispatches said, the Greeks shelled it with a hot artillery barrage. Receiving no reply, they advanced and encountered a battalion of Bersaglieri with several tanks.

The Greeks and Italians fought at close range for an hour and a half until the defense collapsed and the Greeks were able to complete occupation of the village, it was said.

HEAVY LOSSES

Two Greek officers and about 50 soldiers were reported killed, and about 90 Greeks wounded. One Italian major, three other officers and about 70 soldiers were killed and 150 wounded, including seven officers, the reports said.

The Greeks captured two Italian captains, one lieutenant, 200 soldiers, three tanks, two trucks and six machine guns. East of the Klisura-Tepelini sector, the Greeks were reported to have crossed the Tomorica River under the protection of artillery fire, reaching the slopes of the Tomor mountains which form a natural barrier to any advance on Berat.

The Greeks apparently were aiming to wipe out the Italian salient between the Osum and Devoll rivers, preparatory to a drive on Berat. After occupying Garbocka Tuesday, they drove over four miles north and took the village of Pashan in a brief fight. They captured one officer and 140 soldiers.

The Greek left wing was said to have occupied the village of Dorpa on the main Tepelini-Valona road.

German Subs Attack 3 Ships in Atlantic

British, Norwegian and Dutch Ships Sent Out Distress Calls

Submarines preyed on merchant shipping in the sea lanes of the North Atlantic again yesterday.

Three ships—one British, one Norwegian, and one Dutch—were attacked off the northwest coast of Scotland in the waters where German submarines claimed to have destroyed a large British convoy two weeks ago.

Two of the ships—the 10,746-ton Dutch steamer Pandrecht and the 9,880-ton Norwegian freighter Dalfonn—were attacked by a submarine approximately 400 miles off the coast, indicating they may have been part of a convoy.

The third ship, the 12,196-ton British Blue Star liner Napier Star, was torpedoed some 600 miles at sea. All distress signals were picked up by Mackay Radio. The Dalfonn also reported that a "suspicious looking" tanker flying the Dutch flag had been sighted before the attack.

DeValera Operated on

DUBLIN, Dec. 18 (UP).—Prime Minister Eamon de Valera today underwent a minor eye operation at a nursing home near Dublin.

British Intensify Raids on Nazi Ports

Germans Says Reports of Damage Greatly Exaggerated

LONDON, Dec. 18 (UP).—Intensified British bombing attacks on the Nazi-held Channel coast and nearby airbases tonight raised fresh fears of an attempted German invasion.

Simultaneously, the Ministry of Economic Warfare issued a statement which said that 850,000 German children were among the mass evacuees forced by British air raids to leave Berlin, Hamburg, and towns in the Ruhr area for south Germany, Austria and Poland.

British bombers again blasted at industrial targets in Mannheim, city of the Rhine which had been subjected to a seven-hour bombardment the previous night.

"Some fires started in the Monday night raid on Mannheim still were burning, and several fresh fires were caused in the raid last night," the Air Ministry said.

BRITISH ACCOUNTS

EXAGGERATED, SAY NAZIS

BERLIN, Dec. 18 (UP).—British reports of devastating air attacks on German-held airports and harbors were denounced here today as "at least strongly exaggerated" and enemy shipping losses for Dec. 2-4 were set at more than double the tonnage announced in London.

Nazi sources charged that the enemy claims reflected a much brighter picture from the British standpoint than the facts justified.

Information made available to the foreign press derided the British claims of successes in bombing attacks on air fields and docks in northern France and concluded:

"This reveals a British lack of precise navigational instruments and also that they are unable to destroy objectives despite the most favorable conditions."

The German sources said that in an attack on the French port of Brest Tuesday evening the British bombers flew at an altitude of some 2,000 feet "protected by thick clouds" which caused anti-aircraft guns to delay in taking them under fire. The raid was a "complete failure," the Germans said.

N. Scotia Miners Protest Move to Lengthen Hours

PHALLEN, N. S., Dec. 18 (CN).—A resolution protesting the suggestion made by Labor Minister McLeary to lengthen the working hours of Canadians, was approved at a meeting of Phallen Local United Mine Workers here last week. The local decided to seek the endorsement of the resolution by other unions in the area. The resolution declared that all unemployed should be given jobs before hours were increased.

Nazi Ship Sunk

LONDON, Dec. 18 (UP).—A large enemy supply ship of from 6,000 to 7,000 tons was sunk off the Belgian coast early today by British motor torpedo boats, the Admiralty said in a communique.

Chinese Victors In Major Fights In North Zone

War in Region Takes on New Intensity as Chinese Smash at Railway Positions and Fortified Towns of Enemy

(Wireless to the Daily Worker)

CHUNGKING, Dec. 18.—Fights of increasing bitterness are taking place in the Sino-Japanese war, with almost uniform Chinese successes, it is reported here.

A delayed dispatch tells of a Chinese attack on Japanese positions along the Peiping-Hankow Railway, on December 15, in the Hwaiyuan-Kwangsi sector. The Chinese burned 13 Japanese barracks, and at several points destroyed the railway tracks.

On the same day a pitched battle took place at Tsang station, about 15 miles from Wuchang.

In the eastern part of Hupeh Province, district of Huangmei, an engagement was fought between Chinese detachments and a column of Japanese one thousand strong, resulting in the retreat of the Japanese toward Kunglung.

In the central part of this province, where the Chinese have for several days been carrying on an offensive against Japanese garrisons located there, the Chinese have made considerable progress in the direction of Hankow, and their advance guard is within a dozen miles of Yangyang.

British Crack Through Libya Border Forts

Desert Assault Pushes On Past Bardia Toward Derna

(Continued from Page 1)

men have been bottled up in Bardia and that an announcement of the capture of the important base in Italy's richest African colony might come at any time.

(The British have swung wide around Bardia, according to these reports, and out the road westward to Tobruk and Derna in the same sort of flanking sweep as took Sidi Barrani and Sollum and have hopelessly entrapped Italy's 62nd Division which had escaped intact from Egypt, through the Sollum bottleneck "death trap." Part of the Italian 63rd Division and portions of a blackshirt division fleeing from Sidi Barrani as well as tank units and other miscellaneous forces also were said to be bottled up at Bardia.)

The barrel reference applies to tonnage authorized in recent Congressional enactments which had not been allocated to specific types of vessels. Informal sources believed enough tonnage for several more destroyers remained unallocated.

The Navy also announced award of contracts to expand existing facilities at private plants which will build the new ships.

In deciding on small, speedy ships, the Navy was believed actuated by developments abroad. They are a type much used by the British navy in its fight against the submarine blockade.

When recent authorization bills were passed by Congress they carried a provision that up to 30 per cent of tonnage might be transferred from one category to another. It was under this authority that Secretary of Navy Frank Knox acted when he announced the new destroyers.

The additions to the fleet will cost an estimated \$253,384,875 and give the Navy 691 line warships. The destroyers' ratio of average craft—already reduced by the transfer of 30 to Great Britain—will also be much reduced since they now number only 74, or approximately 29 per cent of the projected total. However, some others will become available before the program is complete.

The communique reported bitter fighting in the zone of the Italian 11th army in Albania, but said that pressure on Libya had been relaxed.

According to the communique, this "relaxation" was attributed to "heavy British losses" and Italian "wearing-down tactics."

ITALIANS BOMB BRITISH FLEET

ROME, Dec. 18 (UP).—A High Command communique said today that Italian airplanes had bombed British warships which "appeared before the port of Bardia," important Italian base on the Libyan coast now under attack, and that two British planes were shot down when they sought to protect the warships. Loss of one Italian plane was admitted.

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Defense Commission: Big Business' Super Lobby in Capitol

(Continued from Page 1)

retorical overstatement to charge that the Defense Commission does in fact perform all the functions of a big business lobby in Washington.

The Defense Commission differs in only one important particular from the more traditional lobbies of business interests which have operated in the capital in the past.

BORE FROM WITHIN

Earlier lobbies have, of course, had their contacts on the inside of government. But their technique has been to influence government from the outside.

The representatives of business on the Defense Commission, on the other hand, have moved into the very heart of the government of the United States. They even lay claim to patriotic motives, and term themselves "dollar a year" men.

Although ever chosen in any election, the business lobbyists on the Defense Commission directly and without benefit of intermediaries exercise a dominant voice in determining policies which affect the economic welfare and the peace of the people of the United States.

The Defense Commission is the living evidence that President Roosevelt has abandoned the masses of the people, and is now administering the affairs of government in the closest collaboration with the "economic royalists" whom he once assailed.

LENGTHEN WORKWEEK

William S. Knudsen, former head of General Motors appoint-

ed by Roosevelt and one of the key figures on the Defense Commission, has demanded that the five-day week in industry be settled in favor of intensive speed-up for labor on a six-day basis.

Knudsen with this statement openly took his place as the leading spokesman for the big business drive against the wages and working conditions of labor, and lent his assistance to the assertion of the reactionaries in Congress that labor is sabotaging "national defense."

But in this series of articles it will be shown that the Defense Commission has actually condoned and participated in the sabotage of military preparedness when there has been a conflict between profits and increased production.

It will be shown that the Defense Commission has lobbied for tax concessions for business in Congress.

That the Defense Commission has been responsible for a series of tricky devices to give arms companies a maximum of profits from government contracts.

That many of the "dollar a year men" on the Defense Commission have done very well for the companies which they represent, and that this is but one phase of the profits orgy precipitated by the Defense Commission.

That the Defense Commission has actually fostered and developed monopolistic control of the industrial life of the nation.

That many of the companies represented on the Commission in large measure share responsi-

bility for the building up of the military strength of Nazi Germany against which they now claim to be arming the United States.

That Labor Commissioner Sidney Hillman has in effect assisted the business interests on the Commission in carrying out their policies of increasing corporate profits and battering down the working conditions of labor.

Now let us go behind the marble facade of the Federal Reserve Building and look at some of the people who are running the most profitable business lobby in Washington.

MORGAN ON TOP

Morgan influence is strong among the "dollar a year" men on the Defense Commission. Both General Motors and United States Steel are generally considered as part of the Morgan empire, and these are the two corporations that are represented in the leading positions on the Commission.

The duPonts are linked with the House of Morgan through their holdings in General Motors, but stand on their own feet as one of the leading industrial families in America. And the duPonts, too, are well represented.

Mellon and Rockefeller interests have by no means been frozen out despite the Morgan dominance, and they have many men on the Commission staff as have practically all the leading industrial firms of the nation. A catalogue of a few of these "dollar a year" men may prove rocky reading, but it will be illuminating.

In charge of the raw materials division of the Commission is Edward R. Stettinius, former chairman of the United States Steel Corporation. Scores of big business executives have made this division their happy hunting ground.

CHOICE CREW

The executive assistant to Stettinius is C. E. Adams, chairman of the Air Reduction Corp. The senior consultant is Gano Dunn of the J. G. White Engineering Corporation who was employed by Wendell Willkie's Commonwealth and Southern to fight the TVA.

Other administrative assistants in the Raw Materials Division are Allen Morton, vice-president of the Mellon-controlled Koppers Company; Grenville R. Holden of the Eastman Kodak Company; W. A. Harriman of the Union Pacific Railroad, and an assortment of U. S. Steel officials whom Stettinius took over with him.

In charge of the mining and mineral products section of the division is William L. Batt, head of SKF Industries Inc. which is the American branch of the Swedish-German roller bearings trust. Batt is assisted by Marion B. Folsom, treasurer of the Eastman Kodak Company.

EDISON GANG

The group executive in Stettinius' division in charge of iron and steel products is Walter S. Tower, president of the employer's association in the industry, the American Iron and Steel Institute.

C. W. Kellogg, group executive

in charge of heat, light and power, is president of the Edison Electric Institute and he is assisted by John C. Parker, vice-president of the Consolidated Edison Company.

Stettinius' expert in synthetic textile is H. J. White, head of the Viscose division of the duPont company. Robert E. Wilson, group executive in charge of petroleum products, is president of the Pan American Petroleum and Export Co. H. M. McAdoo, group executive in charge of leather, is president of the United States Leather Company.

Ernest W. Reid, group executive in charge of chemical and allied products, is connected with the Mellon Institute and with the Carbide and Carbon Co.

William S. Knudsen, who has formally resigned as president of General Motors, is the Defense Commissioner in charge of production. Knudsen is the man who has personally examined and approved the big Army and Navy contracts to anti-labor corporations.

John D. Biggers, Knudsen's deputy commissioner, is president of the Libbey-Owens-Ford Glass Company. A number of Knudsen's other assistants are drawn from General Motors.

Donald Meigs, new head of the production division's aircraft section, was managing director of Hearst's Chicago Herald-Examiner during its bitter and long drawn-out struggle against the American Newspaper Guild.

H. S. Vance, chairman of the Studebaker Corporation is director of Knudsen's machine tools and heavy ordnance section.

Director of the food and food products section is George McFeely, president of the Corn Products Refining Company.

RAILWAY HEAD

Ralph Budd, commissioner of the Transportation Division, is president of the Burlington Lines, and he has brought into his division a number of corporate executive and heads of employers' association.

Thomas P. Henry, Budd's consultant on private automobiles, is president of the American Automobile Association. Thomas M. Hill, consultant on bus transportation, is president of the national association of Bus Operators. Ted V. Rodgers, consultant on trucking, is president of the American Trucking Association. C. R. Smith, consultant on airways, is president of the American Airlines.

One of the most important divisions in the Defense Commission is the labor division headed by Sidney Hillman, president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers and an outstanding spokesman for the reactionary, Social-Democratic forces within the labor movement.

Hillman has brought into his division a number of like-minded labor leaders who have the job of bringing pressure on the trade unions to forego their demands and refrain from taking militant action. The role of Hillman's division will be discussed later in this series.

But it is important to point out now that the labor division is by no means free from the corporate domination which is charac-

teristic of the entire Defense Commission organization.

Owen D. Young, head of General Electric, was the key figure in organizing the training set-up in Hillman's division. Young functioned openly at first as Hillman's adviser on training problems; he now operates in the background.

ANTI-LABOR AIDS

Hillman's director in charge of the program of training workers within industry is Channing R. Dooley, manager of industrial relations of the Socony Vacuum Oil Company. Dooley's assistant is J. W. Dietz, personnel relations manager of the Western Electric Company.

Miss Harriet Elliott, dean of women of the Women's College of the University of North Carolina, heads the consumer division of the Commission.

It is true that Miss Elliott's division is staffed by government officials and educators rather than by corporate executives—but it is also true that her division has been stripped of practically all authority. All activities relating to health, medical welfare, nutrition and recreation have been taken out of Miss Elliott's jurisdiction and given to Administrator Paul McNutt of the Federal Security Agency.

MAKES SPEECHES

Miss Elliott fell into disfavor with President Roosevelt when she issued a statement calling attention to the needs of the 45,000,000 undernourished people in the United States.

The President publicly rebuked

Commissioner Elliott, and has recently taken away from her division most of the functions which it originally possessed.

Chester C. Davis of the Federal Reserve Board, heads the Agricultural Division of the Commission which stands with Miss Elliott among the least important divisions of the Commission. So far as can be discovered Mr. Davis has done little besides makes speeches about the farmers and "defense."

Leon Henderson, Securities and Exchange Commissioner, is in charge of the price stabilization division which is supposed to prevent price increases. Henderson is one of the leading New Dealers who has gone over lock, stock and barrel to the war camp.

Herbert F. Taggart, cost accounting consultant of the division, made it plain in a recent speech before the National Association of Cost Accountants, Buffalo Chapter, that Henderson has no intentions of keeping prices down or checking profits.

"It has been falsely asserted that we are going to 'crack down' on all price increases, no matter how necessary or justified," Taggart said. "This simply is not true. We should deem it an unhealthy situation if defense suppliers were unable to make a reasonable profit."

In the next article of this series we will look into the "reasonable profit" in connection with the arms program, and we will see how business in general, and firms represented on the Defense Commission in particular have been cleaning up on munitions orders.

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Baby Taken from Spiritual Cult; Exploitation Charged

'Master Metaphysician' Schafer, Who Promised Spiritual Immortality, Is Deeply Hurt by His Material Loss

By Harry Raymond

Baby Jeanne Gauntt was three months old when a woman from a Sixth Ave. employment agency, who said she was a social worker, took her from her impoverished mother and gave her to J. B. Schafer, leader of the "Master Metaphysicians" cult. Yesterday Baby Jeanne, 18 months old, was back with her mother, Mrs. Catherine Gauntt, a hotel waitress, who charged the cult leader had exploited the child for his own personal material gain, while announcing in the press he would make the child "immortal" by feeding her vegetables and shielding her from "worldly influences."

In the office of Albert Schwartz, attorney, 51 Chambers St., Mrs. Gauntt, a slight red-haired woman, told the heart-rending story of how poverty forced her to give her baby away to the metaphysicians.

FUTURE NOT BRIGHT

She was happy to have the child back, but she faces a hard life working in a hotel restaurant and taking care of little Jeanne and two other children, aged nine and four. She is separated from her husband, who is a migratory worker in the south.

Fifteen months ago, Mrs. Gauntt said, Miss Betty Dean, who said she was a social worker from the McKenna Employment Agency, 1164 Sixth Ave., arranged to give Baby Jeanne food, shelter and care until the mother would be able to take the child. The child was, according to the mother, taken to the weird "Master Metaphysicians" cult center called Shangri-la and Peace Haven, operated by Schafer on the former Vanderbilt estate at Oakland, L. I.

"When he (Schafer) asked me to allow my baby to go to Peace Haven, he told me that he would provide Baby Jeanne with food, shelter, care and attention until such time as I might or would desire to have her back," said Mrs. Gauntt.

DISLIKED PUBLICITY

"During this time many stories have come to my attention by the way of publicity notices in the newspapers, which indicated that she was receiving more than the normal attention given to a baby, and which led me to believe Mr. Schafer, the purveyor of peace, was exploiting my baby for his own personal motives."

The baby was taken to the metaphysicians' estate and placed in the hands of Louise Cerf, aged member of the cult. Schafer then announced to the press he planned a project to give the child "immortality."

"That was his idea and not mine," said Mrs. Gauntt, stating the newspaper articles caused her misgivings.

Metaphysician Schafer, whose creed is to scorn things earthly, immediately began to seek material profit through possession of the child, the mother asserted.

In coupling the child's name with the immortality hocus pocus, Mrs. Gauntt said, Schafer raised a fund for the "benefit of refugee children."

She further charged he solicited "many, many, many gifts" for the child and received as a present a ring, the value of which was estimated from \$5,000 to \$50,000.

TRIED TO 'ADOPT' CHILD

Mrs. Gauntt deplored Schafer's actions. Then Schafer sent his secretary, Cecelia Lawrence, to ask the mother to waive rights to the child and permit some friends of the cult to adopt the child.

Mrs. Gauntt said she told Miss Lawrence she was "perfectly willing" to take little Jeanne back. "The mystic exploitation of the child disgusted her."

The poor mother was later threatened by Miss Dean with "dire consequences," she said.

WANT ADS

(Special to the Daily Worker)

NEWARK, N. J., December 18.—The most recent attempt on the part of Newark relief authorities to intimidate unemployed Negroes of the Third Ward who fight for their right to live home-owned in the face of the relief department this morning in a trial at the Seventh Avenue Police Court. The proceedings, instead of serving to terrorize the unemployed, ended with the release of the defendant, and clearly exposed the callousness of the local relief set-up before a court room packed with Workers Alliance members.

The defendant, Mrs. Theresa Bryant, of 71 Barclay St., a tiny, fragile-looking woman, and the mother of eight children, was charged with "assault and battery," in forcibly taking an overdue food check from her investigator.

A powerful-looking man, he admitted in court this morning that he weighs 160 pounds. He was withholding the check from her on the excuse that she had not notified him that her twelve-year-old son Albert, who "got in trouble" with several older boys last summer, was away from home, at the Jamesburg State Home for boys.

Mrs. Bryant told reporters that when a special relief investigator came around this fall to inquire about her son, she told him the

truth. However, she said she did not tell the regular investigator because she had been informed that her son would be gone "just for a while."

GETS SUMMONS
The "home" which Newark relief standards make possible for Mrs. Bryant and her children, in the Jim-crow Third Ward where she lives, is an indescribably dilapidated four-room cold-water flat, without bath, the toilet in the hall, for which she pays \$18 a month.

Mrs. Bryant's relief check, she says, was due on November 27th. The investigator arrived on the 28th, showed her the check, and told her she could not have it because it had to be "reduced," a process which, he admitted, would take three or four days. When she objected, telling him the children had eaten very little for several days, she said he told her, "That's your trouble," and started to leave.

"Then I grabbed him by the coat collar," said Mrs. Bryant, "and said, 'Give me that check!' But I didn't hit him. He slapped me and pushed me and pushed me up against the washbasin and started swearing till I had to ask him not to use such language in front of the kids."

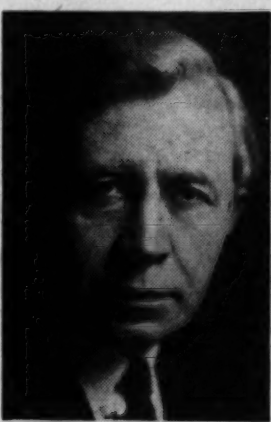
After some further argument, he passed over the food check, and Mrs. Bryant let him go. "As he walked out the door," she said, "he

Back With Her Mother



'Immortalized' for Cash: Baby Jeanne, whom the 'Master Metaphysicians' said would be made to live forever by a vegetable diet and pure thoughts, is here shown reunited with her mother, who charges the 'spiritual' doctors were interested in the earthly dollar. Baby Jeanne lived for fifteen months at the cultists' haven at Oakdale, L. I. Her mother, a waitress, originally gave up the child because of her difficulty in supporting Baby Jeanne and two other children. She's glad to have her back.

Stefansson Speaks Monday On Soviet-U.S. Friendship



VILHJALMUR STEFANSSON

Rally to Protest British Gov't Attacks on Jews

A public meeting to protest the anti-Semitic actions of the British government will be held at Hotel Marcellus, 2689 Broadway at 103rd St., Friday, Dec. 20, at 8:15 P. M. The meeting is sponsored by the Communist Party of the 11th Assembly District, Manhattan.

Mechanized Troops Chart New Speed

FT. BENNING, Ga., Dec. 18 (UP).—Officers of the U. S. Army's armored second division, pleased over results of a 500-mile maneuver, today believed that if put to extreme test the completely motorized unit could travel 300 miles in 18 hours.

Lieut.-Col. Geoffrey Keyes, division chief of staff, said the trip to Panama City, Fla., and back had particular value in that it supplied data on which to base marching tables for the Army's newest striking force.

Noted Explorer Appears at Symposium at the Hotel Diplomat

Vilhjalmur Stefansson, noted scientist and explorer, who has just returned from Alaska, will speak on "Our Good Neighbor—the U.S.S.R." Monday night at a symposium to be held in the Crystal Room of the Hotel Diplomat, 108 W. 43rd St., at 8:30.

The Symposium, sponsored by the American Committee for Friendship with the Soviet Union, will also present Dr. Thomas L. Harris, author and lecturer. Henry Hart, novelist, will serve as chairman.

Mooney Is Gravely Ill On Birthday

Funds Badly Needed to Continue Fight to Restore Health

(By Associated Press) SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 18.—Tom Mooney marked his 58th birthday on Dec. 8 at St. Luke's Hospital, though no one was allowed to see him.

At the same time it was announced that his physician, Dr. Leo Elsoesser, who was head of a volunteer unit of doctors and nurses which served the Loyalist forces in Spain, has never made any charge for his services, which have so far included three abdominal operations and four blood transfusions. The \$3,000 which Mooney's hospitalization and the services of special nurses have cost to date has been paid by contributions from the CIO, AFL, American Civil Liberties Union, and other labor groups and by individual donation.

If Tom is to continue his fight for health, further contributions are badly needed.

I. W. O. Clinic Aids Rochester Fight Disease

Gives Free Inoculation to People Exposed to Polluted Water; Calls on City to Take Adequate Measures to Protect People

(Special to the Daily Worker)

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Dec. 18.—While urging the city administration of Rochester to take more thorough steps in providing immunization against typhoid, which threatens the population of this city as a result of the recent pollution of the water supply, the International Workers Order informed people by means of the radio that they could be inoculated at IWO clinics, established to assist in the emergency.

First clinic set up on the IWO, and kept open until late every night, was at the headquarters of the organization, 975 Joseph Avenue. Indicating the tragic lack of facilities for inoculation against the threatened typhoid, the first evening the clinic was open brought a rush of more than 40 people anxious to be vaccinated.

It was estimated here yesterday that only about 2,000 persons have been inoculated so far in the entire city.

In a letter to City Manager Carlwright and the City Council of Rochester, the City Central Committee of the IWO yesterday offered their continued services in fighting the threatened epidemic

and at the same time urged the city to take adequate measures of prevention to protect the health of the Rochester population.

"We urge the city administration to take immediate steps to provide doctors, nurses, anti-toxin, etc., to all organizations, schools, churches, and clubs who will be willing to give their facilities for anti-typhoid inoculations in all neighborhoods."

The IWO has also set up an emergency clinic in the Italian section of Rochester.

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Cafeteria Workers Vote: More than 5,000 voted in elections of Cafeteria Employees, Local 302, Tuesday and yesterday at Palm Garden. Left photo shows the election board inspecting



union books of voters. Right, some of the campaigners and slogans of the United Union Committee, whose candidates appeared virtually assured of election as the count was being completed last night.

Pickets March At Chicago Pro-War Rally

William Allen White Meeting Protested by 'Loop' Parade

(Special to the Daily Worker)

CHICAGO, Dec. 18.—An anti-war picket line outside of a William Allen White war rally attracted the attention here last night of thousands of Christmas shoppers in Chicago's Loop.

The picket line, sponsored by the American Peace Mobilization, was a protest against the appearance here of Herbert Agar, newspaper columnist, and outspoken advocate of America's immediate entrance into war, who spoke at a meeting in the Palmer House.

Thousands of shoppers stopped to read the picket signs which declared: "Aid to the Allies is the First Step to War — Remember 1917!" Another depicted the steps leading America to war — planes, battleships, loans, men to England.

In addition to the APM, the American Youth Congress and the American Student Union took part in the picketing.

The reception to the pickets by the throngs of shoppers was so warm that it was decided to have a peace picket line in the Loop every night through the Christmas season.

The American Peace Mobilization also distributed leaflets which declared: "The American Peace Mobilization charges the Roosevelt administration with openly and secretly co-operating with the William Allen White Committee to plunge America into war! The campaign for credits to Great Britain is a threat to the public impression that Britain is on the verge of financial exhaustion. This is a fraud on the American people."

No War Loans Is Theme of Brooklyn Rally

Speakers Tonight Will Oppose Johnson Act Repeal

A peace rally tonight in Temple Auditorium, Rochester Ave. and St. Johns Place, Brooklyn, will emphasize the opposition of the people to attempts to repeal the Johnson act.

Sponsored by the Crown Heights Coordinating Peace Council, the meeting will hear Eugene Connolly of the American Labor Party; Dr. Annette Rubinstein, of the American Peace Mobilization; and Thomas L. Harris, one-time rector of St. Luke's Church in Philadelphia, who will explain what repeal of the Johnson act would mean in the attempt to drag us into the European conflict.

Princeton Chemist Is Feared Drowned

PRINCETON, N. J., Dec. 18 (UP).—Police reported today that they found their first trace of Dr. Erhard Fernholz, 31, German chemist, since he disappeared from home at 10 A. M. Saturday. A friend saw him shortly after 11 A. M. that day as he crossed a trestle over Carnegie Lake, near here.

Andrew S. Hoagland, 73, an acquaintance of Dr. Fernholz, told police he was fishing off the trestle when the doctor passed and that they exchanged greetings.

Architects Off to Plan New U. S. War Bases

PANAMA CITY, Dec. 18 (UP).—An advance party of nine architects and engineers representing New York firms collaborating with the U. S. Government in designing West Indian air bases arrived here today and with three others, will leave by airplane in a few days for Trinidad.

Progressive Slate Seen Victor in Cafeteria Union

5,000 Cast Ballots in Local 302 Elections in Two Days of Voting—Early Returns Indicate Complete Victory for Progressive Slate

A complete sweep of the entire slate of the United Union Committee ticket in the hard-fought election of Cafeteria Employees, Local 302, AFL, was indicated late last night as counting of votes was nearing completion at Palm Garden.

A victory of the entire ticket, which combines the local's militant progressives, was a foregone conclusion as the second day's voting started early yesterday morning. The decisive vote was cast by members of the local's "A" division on Tuesday.

The hopes of the "United Right Group," which combines the reactionaries in the local on a red-baiting platform, rested entirely on obtaining a majority in the "A" vote. That hope was shattered as majorities for the United Union slate were returned ranging from 250 for as many as 600 for every post, from the sergeant-at-arms to the presidency.

HOTTEST CONTEST

Never in all of the union's turbulent history was an election so intensely contested.

In the "B" division which voted yesterday, the spokesmen of the "Right" slate conceded, the United Union slate will increase its majority. In that division the militants have in the past, elections received a two to one majority. The polls last night closed at 11 P. M. In effect, the large crowd outside Palm Garden Tuesday midnight, received the results as final on the basis of that day's voting.

The "B" division casts about a third of the general vote.

The "A" Division cast for general officers the following vote: For president, Costas Dritsas, 1,878 to 1,481 for William Mesovich; secretary-treasurer, Sam Kramberg, 1,758 to 1,519 for Walter Conron; general organizer, Larry Phillips, 1,709 to 1,429 for William Kenchelo; for labor chief, Juan Aviles, 1,844 to 1,374 for Chris Panos.

For those offices the "B" division too cast votes yesterday.

Finally elected from the "A" division are six business agents, a general council, associate labor chief, organizer a vice-president, recording secretary, executive board and a sergeant-at-arms. All those posts were won by the United Union Committee by majorities ranging from 400 to 500.

The United Union candidates for trustees, local Joint Executive board delegates, Central Trades delegates and United Hebrew Trades, drew similar majorities, but their final

Communist Branches See 'Daily' as Their Best Helper, Pledge to Build Paper

The Daily Worker as the "best help of all" in making workers understand the class struggle was emphasized Tuesday night in a little story told by Howard Carlson, organizer of Branch 16-4 of the Yorkville Section of the Communist Party.

"A friend of mine, a Zionist girl, who has been fed on stories in the capitalist press, was especially difficult to talk to," he told the Branch. "Each time I'd try to talk to her about the nature of the war and the equal villainy and guilt of Britain, she'd refuse to listen. It was her firm belief that Britain was fighting anti-Semitism in fighting Hitler."

"Then I began showing her the Daily Worker, with its coverage of the British outrages against the Jewish people and that impressed her deeply. Now she reads the 'Daily' every day, and every day she's learning more about what the truth of the war is and what the struggle for peace means, to the Jewish people and all other Americans."

Branch 16-4, with 25 members, distributes 45 Sunday Workers and takes a daily bundle of 10. The branch members assert that at least 10 of the persons who get the

Baltimore CIO Backs March To Washington

Endorses NMU Protest Against War Loans to England

(Special to the Daily Worker)

BALTIMORE, Dec. 18.—Full endorsement of a proposal by the National Maritime Union for a people's march to Washington to protest war loans to Britain was voted here at the latest meeting of the Baltimore Industrial Union Council, CIO.

Plans for the march were made at a general membership meeting of the NMU in New York City last week. The union has announced that it will initiate a conference to consider the proposal.

The CIO council here approved the plan following a report by John Rogers, NMU delegate, who warned that moves to grant a loan to Britain are carrying the United States to the brink of armed involvement in the war.

Emergency Peace Parley To Be Called

APM Sees Loans Looming as Greater Danger to War Involvement

(Continued from Page 1)

tee their sales to England, and that the expenses be taken from the taxpayers of this country rather than from those of Britain."

At the same time, Miss Marion Briggs, administrative secretary, announced that local APM peace congress had already begun to flood Congress and the White House with protests against the extension of loans, grants, gifts of "loaves" of American money and materials to Britain.

The local councils, she said, have started an "all-American protest" campaign of postcards, letters and telegrams, and in many instances, small delegations have been descending upon Washington to state their protests in person.

Local delegations also have been calling upon Congressmen who are at home in their districts during the Christmas holidays. So great has been this spontaneous demonstration, she asserted, that it may soon develop into another mass march on the Capitol.

"Daily" regularly are non-Party workers in the neighborhood.

BRANCH ADOPTS A PLAN

At Tuesday night's meeting the branch adopted a plan and swung into action, to use the D.W. in the intense new recruiting campaign just beginning. From now on, each branch member is taking 10 "contacts," to visit with the "Daily" at least once a week and then to return and discuss the paper and the neighborhood problems. Early in January an estimate is to be made in the branch of just what has been accomplished and what has happened to the contacts undertaken by the members.

By the middle of January the branch pledges to have 20 regular "Daily" readers in the neighborhood, among them workers in a large laundry that is a concentration point for the branch.

In the Industrial Section Tuesday night, the organizers of several branches in a number of different industries were "called to account" for their work in extending the circulation of the press and building the Party.

One youthful organizer, who is proud to be a leader in a branch that does "real work," spoke also

State AFL Asks Law to Protect Conscript's Job

Council Would Extend Jobless Insurance Benefits from 13 to 16 Weeks; Picks Syracuse for Next Convention

(Special to the Daily Worker)

ALBANY, Dec. 18.—State and Federal legislation to protect the jobs of conscripts was urged today by the executive council of the New York State Federation of Labor, meeting here to prepare a legislative program for the coming session of the State Legislature, which will convene on Jan. 8.

The Council will propose an amendment to the state labor relations act, making refusal to rehire discharged army men a violation of that act.

Major attention will also be given by the Federation to legislation liberalizing the unemployment insurance law. Amendments to extend the duration of benefits from 13 to 16 weeks, and to cut the waiting period from three weeks to one week will be sponsored by the AFL body.

Also, it will back a bill to be introduced by the state department of labor, providing for payment of benefits for partial weekly unemployment, according to E. W. Edwards, state secretary-treasurer of the Federation.

FIGHT "MERIT" PLAN

Determined resistance will be offered to any attempts to push a merit-rating amendment through the Legislature this year. Last year the Legislature passed such an amendment despite bitter opposition of all labor organizations, but it was vetoed by the Governor. Mr. Edwards pointed out that such a measure would reduce the reserve in the unemployment insurance fund at a time when reserves will have to be increased to prepare for heavy withdrawals following collapse of the "Defense" boom.

Measures to close the loopholes in the Workmen's Compensation Act will also be strongly backed by the Federation.

Other planks in the proposed program include state licensing and control of private fee-charging agencies; inclusion of railroad workers in the weekly wage provision of the labor law; protection of drivers and chauffeurs against license loss for operation of faulty equipment; five-day week and seniority rights for public employees; twelve working days of sick leave per year for municipal subway workers, and reduction of hours for compressed air workers.

Syracuse was chosen by the conference as the 1941 state convention city with the convention to assemble there on Aug. 19.

Duties of the industry councils as outlined by Murray were to be the following:

"1. Ascertain the domestic and armament requirements of each respective industry, coordinate the production facilities of each industry to meet these requirements speedily and accurately, and expand production facilities where they are inadequate to fulfill these requirements.

"2. Re-employ unemployed workers in each respective industry and in the communities and regions in which the industry operates as quickly as the accelerated pace of the industry permits, fill the labor requirements of the industry from the available supply, and train workers for those occupations in which the council finds a shortage.

"3. Achieve the greatest possible output as quickly as possible by bringing into full use all the production facilities in each respective industry. This covers the granting and re-allocating of armament contracts, fulfilling in advance known domestic requirements so as to clear the way for the peak in armament production, and eliminating bottlenecks created by one concern having a disproportionate amount of armament contracts that it can not complete within the necessary limit of time, and other bottlenecks caused either by contractual or technical factors.

"4. Promote industrial peace through the perfection and extension of sound collective bargaining relations between management and organized labor, and the adherence to all laws affecting the rights and welfare of labor, such as the Social Security Law, the Wages and Hours Act, the National Labor Relations Act, the Walsh-Healey Act and others. In this field of endeavor the statement of labor policy of the National Defense Advisory Commission shall be a guiding principle."

ers range up to 10 cents an hour. Several thousand new workers to be hired in shortly will also come under all union increases and benefits.

Lamotte said that wages will not be frozen but can be opened up for discussion and increased in the event cost of living soars. Tool and die makers, he stated, who are getting a minimum of \$1.25 an hour in auto shops will be able to get the same scale under the new Briggs aircraft contract when employed in aircraft.

Other union conditions instituted in this first Detroit aircraft contract are: shop steward and committeeman set-up, eight-hour day and five-day week, time-and-one-half for overtime and Saturday work with double time for holiday and Sunday work.

Unionists working afternoons and night shift will receive 5 cents an hour more than day workers.

Coudert Quiz Called Labor Spy Outfit

Protest Rally Sits As Trial Against School Wreckers; Elmer Brown Flays Lyons for Aiding Witch-hunters' Committee

Elmer Brown, president of the "Big Six" local of the International Typographical Union, last night told a mass meeting at Manhattan Center Ball Room that the Rapp-Coudert Committee conducting a witch-hunt in New York schools is in effect performing the function of spies in trade unions.

Mr. Brown was addressing an "open hearing" arranged by the Committee for Defense of Public Education, a joint group of Local 837 and Local 5 of the Teachers Union, at which labor's side of the New York school situation was presented.

Prominent labor leaders and spokesmen of various professions were the "witnesses." A jury, which sat on a platform, consisted of trade union members, representatives of parents' organizations, and spokesmen for church, civic and educational groups.

The high point of the meeting was the long standing ovation accorded the 25 teachers from Brooklyn College, who were seated on the platform and who face contempt charges for refusing to testify before a lone member of the committee.

Mr. Brown's statement before the meeting was in reply to Thomas Lyons, president of the New York State Federation of Labor, speech Tuesday at the Albany state legislative conference.

Lyons advised the teachers to yield their membership lists, on a subpoena of the Coudert Committee to "clear" themselves of the charge of Communism.

"Anti-union employer groups used to hire spies or second-story men to gain entrance to union halls and steal such information," Brown said, "but now they have some geological legislators set up an investigating committee, smear the union with wild and fantastic charges, then demand a membership roster as a means of intimidating all the members."

Brown then cited a statement by Lyons several weeks ago, in which the AFL leader strongly opposed the practice of subpoenas. He warned that if the Coudert Committee has its way, "There is no knowing what further attempts may be made to curtail or wipe out trade union rights which labor has fought for centuries to establish."

After reading the full statement of Lyons, Brown said: "Nothing has occurred thus far which cause any member of organized labor to add or take away from that statement. Brother Lyons made October 17, 1940."

WAGES SUPPORT

Brown concluded with a strong appeal to all labor to back the teachers' fight against the Coudert committee and for free education. Before the hearing got under way, delegations from various unions, carrying their own banners, marched into the hall.

Osmond K. Fraenkel, president of

Out Today

REPORT FROM MEXICO

by Joseph North

It is with good reason that the name of Vice-President-Elect Wallace, was mispronounced by the Mexican people. They called him Mr. Vayase which means Mr. Scram in Spanish.

Imperialist intrigue smolders below the Rio Grande. Torch-bearers of American empire toll hard to send up in smoke the democratic gains of the Mexican people. Mexico is a major link in Wall Street's plan of colonization for all of Central and South America.

Joseph North, editor of NEW MASSES, has just returned from a visit to Mexico. He attended the Comacho inauguration and was in Mexico City when the Communist Party headquarters was raided. This article is the first of two in which he details the current political situation in Mexico and the prospects for the future.

Read this exciting, provocative article by America's foremost master of reportage.

ALSO:

WHAT HITLER DIDN'T SAY

by A. B. Magill

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CITY AND STATE

D. W.

2 Akron Parleys Flay Cop Terror Toward Negroes

NAACP and Youth Conference Attack Brutal Arrest of Innocent Man; Youth Group Urges Positive Peace Policy

AKRON, O., Dec. 18.—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored Peoples and the Akron Youth Congress, in separate conferences this week, leveled an energetic campaign for the rights of Negro people and against police brutality against the Negro population of this city.

Quash Iowa Conviction of CIO Organizer

High Court Holds Jury Was Swayed by Improper Evidence

(By Federal Press) SIOUX CITY, Dec. 18.—The Iowa supreme court has reversed the jury verdict under which James Porter, former organizer for the Peabody Coal Workers Organizing Committee (CIO), was sentenced to serve five years in the state reformatory.

Porter was found guilty in district court here about a year ago on an indictment which charged him with "malicious mischief" in connection with an alleged stoning of a house during the four-month strike at Swift & Co. in 1938.

The supreme court, all of whose members are Republicans, reversed the verdict on the ground that extraneous testimony was allowed. District Judge Miles W. Newby permitted the state to introduce evidence on other alleged violence during the strike, and the supreme court declared that this might have prejudiced the jury against Porter.

County Atty. Maurice E. Rawlings has not revealed if he will try Porter a second time.

The other four men are named in the same indictments with Porter, who was accused of stoning the home of a cab driver during the strike. "Evidence" was bits of dirt and stone, which police said they found in the back seat of Porter's automobile, and tire tracks in the muddy street.

Army Is Training Parachute Corps Of Infantry

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18 (UP).—The Army is training "air infantry" troops with a view to moving large numbers of men—possibly whole divisions—by air transport, it was learned today.

Training of air infantry is now concentrated at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, where troops of the second division have been practicing the important maneuvers of loading and unloading men and equipment into big transport planes.

CIO Construction Union Wins Pay Boost

LOCKPORT, N. Y., Dec. 18 (FP).—Hourly wage increases of from 4 to 5 cents are provided in an agreement between the United Construction Workers Organizing Committee (CIO) and the Upon Co., wall-board manufacturer, ending a 3-day strike by 144 workers.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—Immediate dismissal of charges against Sam Adams Darcy, Communist leader, was urged upon Governor Culbert Olson of California today by 165 nationally prominent representatives of every field of public life.

Darcy was recently extradited by California authorities from Pennsylvania, where he was state chairman of the Communist Party. He faces up to fourteen years imprisonment for a minor inaccuracy in his registration as a voter in California in 1934.

Charging that Darcy is being persecuted because he represents a minority party, signers of the appeal declare "this constitutes a violation of the principle of equality before the law."

"We believe that the State of California," they wrote, "if it continues to make such discriminatory application of the law, places our own rights in jeopardy and undermines the Constitution of the United States, which its officials have sworn to uphold."

"We urge you to dismiss the charges against Mr. Sam Adams Darcy."

A copy of the appeal, which is sponsored by the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties, was forwarded to District Attorney Matthew Brady of San Francisco.

Signers include Oswald Garrison Villard; Bishop William P. Remington, Pendleton, Ore.; Clifford T. McAvoy, Deputy Commissioner, New

York City Department of Welfare; Olin Downes, music critic, New York Times; Dr. Harry F. Ward, Rockwell Kent, artist; Theodore Dreiser; Aaron Copland, composer; Congressman Vito Marcantonio; Herman Shulman, theatrical producer; Donald Ogden Stewart, president, League of American Writers; and Hans Otto Storm, author.

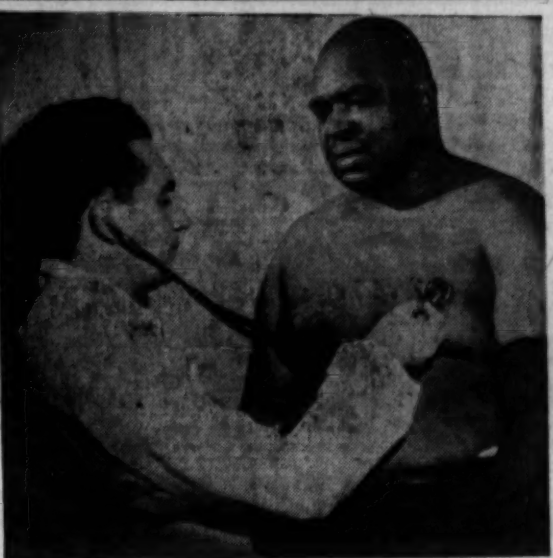
In their letter, the signers point out that the "crime" charged against Darcy in no way affected his eligibility as a voter.

In proof of their assertion that Darcy is the victim of discrimination, they cite the statement of U. S. Webb, attorney-general of California in 1934, that 250,000 false voter's registrations were made in that year, yet no prosecutions were ordered.

"Mrs. Charles G. Johnson, state treasurer of California," the letter says, "placed on his registration certificate for the year 1932 precisely the same inaccuracy charged against Mr. Darcy. Quite properly, in our opinion, Mr. Johnson was not prosecuted."

The full list of signers follows: Dr. Thomas Addis, Stanford University, Civil Rights Council of Northern California, San Francisco, California.

Edward S. Allen, Ames, Iowa. Rev. Paul J. Allard, Kint, Michigan. Mrs. Roberta Anthony, Springfield, Mass. Prof. George T. Astle, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois. Lee H. Ball, Methodist Church, Lake Wales, New York.



Guarding U.A.W.'s Health: Dr. Morris Raskin, a medical consultant for the United Automobile Workers, is shown here examining a Ford worker as part of the union's constant check on the health of men in the industry. State officials have admitted that the "defense" speedup is causing a sharp increase in industrial disease and accidents.

'Defense' Speedup Brings More Industrial Disease

Michigan Board of Health Finds Its Staff Taxed to Combat Increasing Illness in Factories; Accidents Also Grow

DETROIT, Dec. 18 (FP).—A rising tide of industrial disease and accidents is beating against the health of Michigan's factory workers as one of the fruits of the accelerated defense program. Both public health officials and private consultants are dreading the outcome if nothing is done to stem the current.

The bureau of industrial hygiene of the Michigan state board of health finds that its small staff, inadequate even in normal times, is unable to cope with the situation. While no specific figures were given out, it is believed that the bureau has only five men for inspection in Detroit and only two men outside.

Factories are working three shifts a day, in many cases Saturdays and Sundays at overtime rates. Idle plants are busy once more and old buildings are being converted to industrial uses. Plants designed for a certain health load are being overtaxed.

Dr. Herbert, secretary of the AYC, opened the conference with the statement, "there is no winning side in the present war because it is the people who bear the burden on both sides."

Joseph Huehler of the Barbeton CIO council presented labor's viewpoint, emphasizing the warning of the recent CIO convention that "eternal vigilance is the price of peace" and that labor must be on its toes on all questions.

The conference gave full support to a report on civil liberties which stated "there is no half-way mark in civil liberties. If, from our civil liberties structure, you take away one piece from any group, no matter how small, it will not be long before the whole structure falls upon the heads of the people."

Attorney Kelly of the N.A.A.C.P., addressing the Youth Peace Conference, explained the struggle of his organizations for equal rights for Negro people and requested aid from the AYC and other organizations in this fight.

The AYC conference went on record to participate in the present campaign for the defense of Negro rights in Akron, against police brutality, intimidation, indiscriminate arrests and beatings of Negro youth.

The most recent case cited was that of Bernard Jones, Negro youth leader and chairman of the Akron Youth Council, who was brutally slugged by police a week ago for the "crime" of looking for an address in a white neighborhood at night.

The AYC conference closed with a panel meeting on jobs, education, civil liberties and peace. Plans were adopted to involve all Akron youth people around a campaign for the American Youth Act and the defense of the rights of draftees.

Dr. Henry Lambert Ribby, Kingston, N. Y. Mr. Louis P. Birk, Modern Age Books, Inc., New York City. Alice Stone Blackwell, Cambridge, Massachusetts. Marc Blumenthal, Composer, New York City.

Ralph E. Blount, Oak Park, Illinois. Rev. Clarence E. Boyer, New York City. Prof. Edward S. Boyer, Millikin University, Decatur, Illinois. Dr. George L. Brown, Philadelphia, Pa. Harold Chapman Brown, Prof. of Philosophy, Stanford University, Palo Alto, California.

Zaldis Brown, Upper Montclair, New Jersey. Prof. Edwin Berry Burgum, New York City. Mr. and Mrs. Charles L. Carhart, Chevy Chase, Maryland. Anton J. Carlson, University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois.

Thomas E. Casey, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Russell N. Chase, Cleveland, Ohio. Sarah Cleghorn, Manchester, Vermont. Mrs. Ethel Clyde, Huntington, Long Island, New York. Harry H. Collins, Jr., "Descendants of the American Revolution," Washington, D. C.

Dr. Thomas E. Cooley, Director, Children's Hospital, Detroit, Michigan. Mr. Philip M. Connolly, Los Angeles Industrial Union Council, Los Angeles, California. Mrs. Walter Coe, Germantown, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Aaron Copland, Composer, New York City. Prof. Richard T. Cox, New York City. Prof. C. M. Cronin, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington. Prof. Ephraim Cross, City College, New York City. Countess Cullen, Newport, New York City. Rev. Edward E. Curtiss, Wellesley, Massachusetts. Rev. E. Leroy Dakin, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

The Nazi Gestapo Is Hoover's Model of Conduct for F.B.I.

Chief of G-Men Carefully Conceals His Past Record of Protection of the 'Ohio' Gang of Swindlers and His Part in the 1920 Red Raids

(This is the second of two articles on J. Edgar Hoover, FBI chief.)

By Art Shields "Mr. Hoover, the head of the FBI, is the greatest hound for publicity on the American continent today," said Senator George Norris of Nebraska in a speech in the Senate on May 7 of this year.

Norris also considers Hoover one of the most dangerous enemies of democracy in America today.

Telling of Hoover's vast publicity organization, of the ghost writers who turn out his speeches, the press agents who hail his deeds, Norris sounded this warning:

"Unless we do something to stop this furor of adulation and praise as being omnipotent, we shall have an organization—the organization of the FBI—which, instead of protecting the people from the evil acts of criminals, will itself in the end direct the government by tyrannical force, as the history of the world shows has been the case when secret police and secret detectives have been smooching around the homes of honest men."

Hoover's scurrilous attacks on Harry Bridges the West Coast CIO leader, and his present proposal to outlaw the Communist Party, give point to this warning.

The "greatest hound for publicity on the American continent today," however, has some skeletons in his closet that he tries to keep locked up and hidden from the world.

The Chief of the G-Men does not allow his press agents to discuss some dark chapters in his past. The "Red Raids" of 1920 form one chapter.

The "Ohio Gang" scandals of 1921-1924 form another. All during the "Ohio Gang" years when Attorney General Daugherty and Jess Smith and William J. Burns were shaking down the bootleggers and dope peddlers and white slaves of the country, J. Edgar Hoover was either Daugherty's special assistant, or Burns' right hand man in the FBI, or Acting Director of the FBI himself.

Hoover managed to stay in when Daugherty was thrown out in 1924, but it must not be forgotten that the present FBI chief was a partner in Daugherty's administration of the Department of Justice during this period.

NATURAL BRUTAL Hoover cannot escape responsibility for the arrest of hundreds of AFL railroad shopmen during the great 1922 strike at the orders of his agents.

The FBI has expanded its activities vastly since then, having over 2,050 persons on its payroll now, compared to less than 700 in the Daugherty days.

Naturally brutal, Hoover enjoys handcuffing prisoners and exhibiting them to the public. Both Circuit Judge Anderson and Senator Norris have commented on such treatment of FBI prisoners.

Norris called attention last spring to FBI brutality to a dozen Detroit and Milwaukee prisoners accused of assisting volunteers to go to Spain to fight against fascism. In a letter of protest to Attorney General Robert H. Jackson on March 10 Norris described early-morning raids on the prisoners' homes.

He told of the handcuffing of the prisoners, their march through the streets in this manacled state and the FBI's refusal to allow them to talk to attorneys.

ILLEGAL INTIMIDATION "It is my understanding," said Norris, "that two, possibly three of these people were Communists. However, that is no defense of the actions of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Even a Communist, under our Constitution, if charged with a crime,



J. EDGAR HOOVER

ought to be treated in a civilized manner. . . .

"Intimidation by third-degree methods is indefensible and is illegal, under our system of jurisprudence. The officers of the law, such as agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, ought to be the first to obey the law."

Scoring FBI brutality to the pro-Spanish prisoners, Norris told the Senate on May 7 that "I think such practices are deplorable; to my mind they are detestable."

John L. Lewis, CIO leader, went further in attacking the FBI and Hoover as an enemy of labor, in his presidential report to the Atlantic City convention last month:

"One of the most vicious threats to civil liberties," said Lewis, "is represented by the actions of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Testimony before Congressional committees and other public reports indicate that the FBI has gone beyond the limits contemplated by Congress or authorized by federal law, in its drive in whipping up hysteria against 'subversive activities,' 'sabotage,' and 'activities detrimental to the internal security of the United States.' These activities, by admission of Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, include:

(1) Setting up a 'General Intelligence Division' in September, 1939, to probe not only espionage and violations of neutrality laws, but also anything which the FBI calls 'sabotage,' 'subversive activities,' and 'activities detrimental to the internal security of the United States.' Only the first two are specifically made criminal by federal law, and there is no authority under law for the FBI to investigate matters which do not constitute federal crimes.

(2) Fingerprinting industrial workers and supplying reports on them to their employers, without the knowledge of the workers.

(3) Making a general index of supposedly subversive individuals arranged alphabetically and geographically. The test of subversion is, of course, in the absence of any statutory definition, determined by Mr. Hoover's personal prejudices.

(4) Preparing secret detention cells in the FBI offices for suspects.

(5) Inviting reports from employers, bankers, patriotic societies and private citizens on activities and opinions of their employees and neighbors."

Reviewing next Hoover's brutality during the raids of the 1920s, "when thousands of innocent aliens, labor leaders, anti-

John L. Lewis Warned of Hoover's Usurpation of Power

war people, and plain citizens were hauled out of meetings and out of their homes, placed in jail, handcuffed, held incommunicado and generally harried by agents of the Department of Justice," Lewis closed with a solemn warning that Hoover was preparing a "Gestapo."

"It is of the utmost importance," said Lewis, "that there not be permitted to be created in this nation an organization that will carry on in the manner of the Gestapo of Nazi Germany."

"Criticism of the illegal actions of the FBI is customarily condemned by Mr. Hoover as the equivalent of unpatriotic activity. This is but the first step of a person who cannot stand the light of free discussion and open criticism. All the people of this nation, and the Government itself, should be made to comply with the law of the land, including, and particularly, the FBI, its agents, and its head, Mr. J. Edgar Hoover."

Lewis's warning against Hoover's Gestapo should be posted up in every union hall in the United States.

Hoover's Gestapo is a deadly tool of the employers of America, who are trying to smash the trade unions. His attempts to deport Harry Bridges, to outlaw the workers' political organizations are timed with the drive of "Defense" chief Knudsen to restore the six-day week and destroy the right to strike.

Every decent American will join with Senator Norris in calling Hoover's practices "detestable."

Inspectors Probe Fatal Mine Blast

Seven Dead, Many Hurt In Gas Explosion in West Virginia

BECKLEY, W. Va., Dec. 18 (UP).—Inspectors equipped with oxygen masks entered the No. 66 coal mine tippie of the Raleigh Coal and Coke Corporation today to repair damage and restore ventilation preparatory to an official investigation into the explosion which took seven lives yesterday.

N. P. Rhinehart, State Mines Department chief, said he would begin a state inquiry after the mine is cleared of fumes. The investigation is to begin tomorrow.

Inspection crews from the U. S. Bureau of Mines at Pittsburgh and the State Department accompanied safety crews of the company into the tippie to inspect and repair damage.

Within five hours of the blast, rescue workers recovered the seven bodies and rescued 66 men, several of whom were injured.

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Free Sam Darcy, Educators and Writers Urge Olson

(Special to the Daily Worker)

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"We urge you to dismiss the charges against Mr. Sam Adams Darcy."

A copy of the appeal, which is sponsored by the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties, was forwarded to District Attorney Matthew Brady of San Francisco.

Dr. Henry Lambert Ribby, Kingston, N. Y. Mr. Louis P. Birk, Modern Age Books, Inc., New York City.

Alice Stone Blackwell, Cambridge, Massachusetts. Marc Blumenthal, Composer, New York City.

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1940

A Peoples Convention Becomes a 'Conspiracy'

The British imperialists and their agents in this country are trying to create the impression that this is a "people's war." But just let the people try to do something about it—as with the forthcoming British People's Convention on Jan. 12—and the fires of eternal damnation are called down upon their heads.

Bevin—that Social Democratic lackey of British imperialism—has attacked the convention with the usual red-baiting slanders. Scotland Yard has discovered an awful "subversive plot" precisely because the convention originated from the trade unions and the masses. The New York Post, in an editorial yesterday, leads the Social Democratic pack over here with a typical stool-pigeon attack upon the convention.

Just what is the "terrible conspiracy?" The convention, among other things, proposes to defend living standards, trade union and civil rights; it calls for adequate air raid shelters for the poor, friendship with the Soviet Union—the bulwark of world peace, a people's government and a people's peace to get rid of the causes of war. These modest proposals are regarded as a "subversive plot" because they seek to defend the British people against the monopolists and labor-haters who are waxing fat on the increasing misery and fascist regulations imposed upon the country.

Although the British ruling class is as much in power as it ever was, its Social Democratic apologists would have the people believe that a slight revolution is taking place in England and that Bevin and the like have Churchill's consent to abolish the evils of capitalism.

But the growing strike votes of the British workers and the People's Convention are themselves results of the fact that the British monopolists are loading heavier burdens of the imperialist war on the backs of the population. Whatever betterment the British people can get will come through the People's Convention and not through Bevin. What Bevin is working for can be seen from the Fifth Column activities of his fellow Laborite titled Sir Walter Citrine who, over here, sides with Knudsen and Ford for longer hours and speed-up against labor.

Real aid to Britain means full moral support expressed for the People's Convention. The Post and the other Social Democrats want to discredit this convention because they want imperialist war, not a people's peace, red-baiting and not labor and civil liberties. Above all, they do not want this convention to encourage the independent initiative of labor and the American people for their own peace, security and freedom at home.

That Awful "Crime"

A United Press dispatch the other day gave a rare insight into why Martin Dies goes berserk with slander against the Communist Party.

"Mr. Dies, en route to his Orange, Texas, home," the story said, "charged that Communists planned . . . to GIVE NEGROES PUBLIC OFFICES" in the South.

What a colossal crime! Think how terrible it would be to abolish the poll tax, enforce the 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments and accord to the 13 million Negro Americans their citizenship rights. It would be against the slavery of Jefferson Davis stood for, and which did not go with the wind. In fact Oscar Wheeler, Communist candidate for Governor in West Virginia, is now under a 15 year sentence because he told nominating petition signers that James W. Ford had a right to be Vice-President of the United States.

When one looks at the mass disfranchisement of Negro and white people in Texas (and in 7 other poll tax states) it is possible to see just what Dies is up to. In the last presidential election, Texas had 23 electoral votes with a popular vote of 1,041,168; while Michigan had 19 electoral votes with a pop-

ular vote of 2,085,025, that is, more than twice the popular vote of Texas. Thus states where the majority of the people are disfranchised have more to say about the election of national officials than people in other states who can vote. Dies naturally considers it a "crime" to interfere with the poll tax democracy which enables such a fascist war-monger as himself to keep going to Congress.

The Communists have stood—and are standing—in the forefront beside labor and the common people of the South in fighting against the poll tax system of the landlords and millowners, and in trying to secure full citizenship for the Negro people. Dies' raving is unwitting admission of that fact. But Dies' purpose is to place a red-baiting smear upon everyone who stands up for real democracy instead of the poll tax; and he demonstrates how fascism is advancing with seven league boots in this country behind the barrage of President Roosevelt's "fake" defense program.

Who Is Getting The 'Ransom Price'

The Wall Street Journal has called upon the Department of Labor to work out some scheme for a "limitation" of labor's right to strike in "defense" industries.

The reason for the need for such "limitation," as stated by this newspaper of high finance, is highly revealing. Says the Wall Street Journal:

"The country cannot permit the wage workers to use the defense emergency as an opportunity to extort a ransom price for national security."

It is clear from this that what haunts the Wall Street Journal is the movement for wage increases and that it is to keep wages down that the newspaper demands a "limitation" on the right to strike.

When the Wall Street Journal speaks of labor "extorting a ransom price," it is good to examine figures. Take the Vultee aircraft strike, for example, with its 12½ cent an hour increase which has given the employers everywhere the jitters. As a result of the strike, the Vultee payroll will be increased by about \$1,200,000 a year. But on its \$84,000,000 of back orders from the government, the company will clean up a profit of \$12,000,000!

Who is extorting the ransom price? Not the employees but the Vultee corporation! The fact of the matter is that the corporation, along with the rest of the aircraft industry, staged on a three-month strike of its own, refusing to sign a single government contract until the Administration agreed to change the profit limits and give the industry its "ransom price."

The whole movement to curb strikes in "defense" industry, is based on dishonesty and fraud. Employers who are cleaning up with the connivance of the Administration, are fearful lest the workers get a few pennies more per hour in order to meet higher living costs.

Instead of agreeing to any "limitation" on their right to strike, the unions should denounce all such schemes and press forward with demands for higher wages. The employers must be made to share with the workers some part of the "ransom price" which they have exacted from the public treasury.

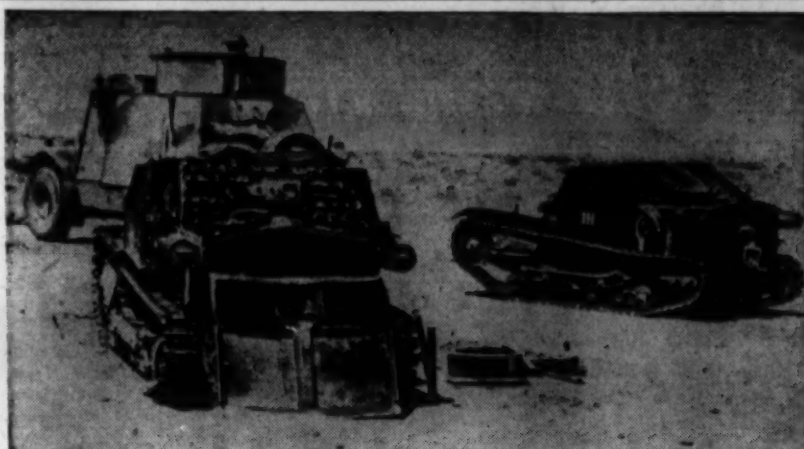
The 'Flu' Knows Its Conditions

The fact that the "flu" has stricken tens of thousands of people—it was 30,000 in one Louisiana town alone recently!—is a striking revelation of the health and living conditions of the American people.

The "flu," of course, does not respect race or color. But it does respect conditions. Millions of Americans are undernourished, are ill-clad and ill-housed. These millions will bear the brunt of the epidemic while the upper crust of well-fed, well-housed and well-clad will view the suffering of the masses as an "act of God." If they are hit, they have hospitals, opportunities for endless rest, and don't have to bow their backs under speed-up and long hours.

It was during the World War when the last "flu" took its toll from the common people. But even before Wall Street can push the country into the present one, the physical health of the people is at such a low ebb as to be unable to withstand another epidemic.

By putting through a war program under the guise of the magic word "defense," the Roosevelt Administration is breaking down the health resistance of the people. The Housing and National Health bills have been scrapped for "defense." But the people can see just how phony this "defense" is as it leaves them in slums, their children wracked with any pestilence that might come along.



Italian Tanks Seized by British: A captured Italian tank is towed to rest beside another tank captured by the British in their counter-offensive in Egypt. Two Italian divisions and thousands of Fascist blackshirt militiamen have been bottled up at Bardia, ten miles inside the Libyan coast, according to London reports.

ARTISTS LIVE IN GARRETS? NOT IN USSR, SAYS SCULPTOR

By R. Gruz

MOSCOW (By Mail).—"Don't ever think of becoming an artist. Artists live in attics and are given paupers' funerals."

It was nearly 40 years ago, when he was in Zurich, studying philosophy, that Sergei Merkurov received this piece of fatherly "advice" in a letter which had come all the way from the little Armenian town of Alexandropol, now the city of Leninakan.

"An attic for a home and a pauper's funeral were both equally shameful to a Caucasian," the renowned sculptor, recalling his father's letter, was telling me as we neared his studio. "But the 'advice' had come too late. For I was already living in an attic, and I was not much worried about my funeral. And so I became an artist after all!"

At this point in our conversation we had just set foot upon the studio grounds, which are situated in Izmailovo, one of the most picturesque corners of Moscow.

Strolling through the wide courtyard, we wended our way between large blocks of granite and marble, sheets of copper and stainless steel, half-finished statues in stone and plaster of Paris. This is where Merkurov and his 35 assistants—sculptors, architects, designers, lapidaries and molders—work.

GREATEST OF MONUMENTS

At present the efforts of all are concentrated on the creation of a 100-meter statue of Vladimir Ilyich Lenin. Its "pedestal," the Palace of Soviets, is now being erected on the bank of the Moscow River, at the other end of the Soviet capital. When completed, this grand edifice will be the tallest building in the world.

"From the very first days of the Revolution," the sculptor told me, "it had been my ambition to make a bust of the leader from life. But whenever I broached the matter to Nadezhda Konstantinovna Krupskaya, Lenin's wife, the answer was invariably the same: 'Vladimir Ilyich is extremely busy . . . But we should be leaving for a vacation soon, and then you will have plenty of opportunities.'"

"And did you?"

"No. That is, not until that tragic night of January 22, 1924, when the great man had already breathed his last, and I came to Gorki to make a death mask. I shall never forget how Nadezhda Konstantinovna met me then. 'You always wanted to model a bust of him,' she said with tears in her eyes, 'and now you can only do his death mask.'"

"Since that memorable day I have not ceased to work on the image of the leader of the Revolution. I knew that this would take years to fulfill and I conceived a detailed plan of work."

"With what did you begin?"

"I had at my disposal the death mask I had made myself, as well as photographs, numerous films and my personal collections, of course. I had met Lenin a number of times."

"At first I endeavored to restore the portrait likeness of Lenin. This bust was to serve as an artist's model, so to speak, for future work. But at that time the country's

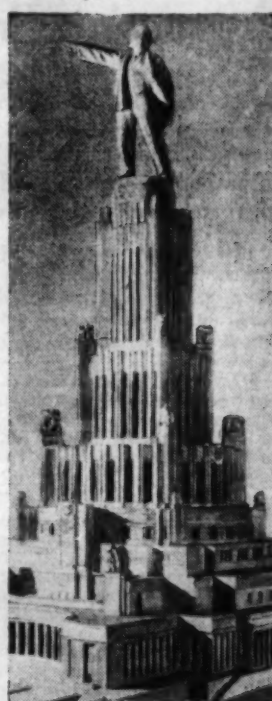


Figure of Lenin atop the Palace of the Soviets is being sculpted under the direction of Sergei Merkurov.

masses were demanding busts and monuments which would keep before them the beloved features of the man who had organized and led the Great October Socialist Revolution. It was no time to lock oneself up in one's studio and hold aloof from life.

"So some of the busts, as well as what were in reality intended as sketches" for statues, had to be submitted for mass reproduction. During the first few years after Lenin's death several hundred thousand copies of his bust were distributed. Never before in history had so many busts of one man been made. Now this figure is considerably over a million.

"I have had to make many statues and monuments to Lenin in various poses. They can be met in all parts of the Soviet Union. While working on these busts and figures I gradually grew into the image I was portraying. Every sketch, every bust had some new element, some new trait that the previous one lacked. Gradually unnecessary details were cast aside and new, more characteristic traits brought out and emphasized. All this gradually brought us closer to the image of the great leader."

"It often happens that the material dictates form. In building the 32-meter granite statues of Lenin and Stalin erected at the entrance to the Moscow-Volga Canal, I selected the simple, iconic lines most adapted to the basic properties of granite—strength, simplicity, chiseled lines. These statues are hewn from huge blocks. Nearly 20 trainloads of granite were required for these two statues. The block from which the heads were cut weighed nearly 80 tons."

"And so, after having worked for sixteen years on the portrayal of Lenin in art, after innumerable failures and setbacks, I have finally approached the culminating point in my career—the 100-meter figure of Lenin."

Nothing so colossal as this statue of Lenin on which Merkurov is now working has ever been attempted in the history of art. Even the Statue of Liberty in New York, the largest sculpture in the world at present, is only 46 meters high. An idea of the dimensions of the Lenin statue may be gained from the fact that the fingers will be 6 meters 20 cm. long, and the head, 14 meters high, i.e., as tall as a five-story house.

Merkurov's sketch of the statue was chosen by the Government from 35 designs submitted during a contest in 1937. The sculptor depicted Lenin standing with his right arm outstretched and his hand pointing forward.

A large model of the Palace of Soviets crowned with the statue is on view in the studio. The entire structure gives the impression of monolithic unity and strength. More than half a hundred sketches were made before the correct proportions, the most difficult problem in architecture, were found.

The studio is filled with sculptures of Lenin—from tiny statuettes to large figures.

"What material will you use for the statue on the Palace of Soviets?" I asked.

"It is not decided as yet. We are experimenting with stainless steel, a copper-nickel alloy and an alloy containing gold. So far the head for a 10-meter statue has been made of copper leaf. . . ."

Sergei Merkurov is working on a number of other interesting sculptures. Not long ago he completed a bust of Korosakov, well-known Russian psychiatrist. It will be erected in front of the Psychiatric Polyclinic in Moscow. In addition, he has completed a monument to Tsiolkovsky, Russian pioneer in dirigible construction.

For the new building of the Theater of the Red Army in Moscow, Merkurov is making a 15-meter figure of a Red Army trumpeter.

'MY LIFEWORK'

"But the Lenin statue is my lifework," Merkurov said. "In my childhood, spent in my native Caucasus, I used to stay for hours on end with the old stonecutters in the graveyards. My first attempt was a stone nightingale perched on a branch. It took me several months to cut it."

"My first teacher, a wise old stonecutter and a natural-born artist, used to say: 'See that your nightingale doesn't look like a wagtail. Work so, that your roses smell better than real roses, that your nightingale greets the dawn and gladdens the soul of the dead for thousands of years longer than a real nightingale. A true master can make a stone sing, but in the hands of a poor master it turns into ashes. When you grow up do not forsake our trade. Then perhaps you will be able to hew a great man out of stone.'"

"And now I am making the statue of the greatest man. . . ."

Point of Order

By ALAN MAX

AFTER THE BANQUET

MRS. VAN STITTIN sat up in bed and turned on the light. She could hear his foot-step. Well, it was about time he came home and he was probably tipsy again. Here Mr. Van Stittin entered the bedroom, but one glance at the sorrowful expression on his face convinced his wife that she had misjudged him.

"What is the trouble, Van Stittin?" she asked.

"Oh, Pamela, Pamela," he said with a heart-rending look as he began to take off his tuxedo. "I wonder if I am unselfish enough to meet the test."

"Whatever are you talking about, Van Stittin?" said Pamela shrilly, wondering whether maybe she had been right after all about his condition.

"Billy Knudsen let us have it straight from the shoulder tonight at the National Association of Manufacturers' dinner," Van Stittin explained. "He said that labor and management had been lying down on the job. He said we must keep our plants working longer hours and every day in the week and that we must keep producing more and more and more and more and more and more and—." Van Stittin sounded a bit incoherent as he struggled out of his dress shirt.

"What's that to get so upset about?" said Pamela sharply.

"We're being asked to make one sacrifice after another. It's different with the workers in my plant. There are so many of them and they can take it. But there's only one Van Stittin and I'm not sure my shoulders are broad enough for the job." And there was a mute appeal for help in his eyes as he stared at his wife.

"Now explain the whole thing to me, Van Stittin," said Pamela comfortingly. "I'm sure it's nothing at all!"

"Nothing at all!" repeated Van Stittin angrily. "Don't you realize what this means? If we work the men longer hours and keep the plant going seven days a week, our personal income will be about three million a year—and just as we were getting accustomed to a \$750,000 standard of living." There was a catch in his throat.

"Oh, how terrible!" cried Mrs. Van Stittin as the ugly truth began to dawn upon her. "Why, it may mean that we will have to give up this house—and get one twice as large!"

Van Stittin nodded, misery written all over his face.

Mrs. Van Stittin clenched her teeth. "We'll do it!" she cried. "If our country demands it, we'll do it!"

"What a comfort you are, Pamela!"

"And we'll have two yachts—even though I get terribly seasick from the one we have now."

"What self-sacrifice, my dear!"

"And that isn't all, Van Stittin," said Pamela as the light of martyrdom shone in her eyes. "I'm prepared to buy a second mink coat and wear two of them at once even if I melt."

"What sublime patriotism!" cried Van Stittin as he clambered into bed. "Pamela, you give me new hope and strength with which to face the future. Why, if Billy Knudsen insists, I'm ready now to run that factory of ours not seven but eight days a week—come what may!"

News Item: "Rep. Dies has been barred from taking out any books from the Washington Public Library because of a refusal to pay a fine of 80 cents for keeping books beyond the 'two weeks' period.' Was one of them Mein Kampf?"

RESOLUTION

They say that the sun never sets
On Britain's broad domain.
May no son of ours ever set
Foot to fight there again. H. G.

Headline: "U. S. to Hold Off Sending Food to Europe."

Any bets on whether it will be used now to feed the 52,000,000 under-nourished at home? AL. LOEW.

A man for whom some people's love ain't nothing iztra
Is Selective Service Director Clarence Addison Dykstra.

Dr. Charles Turchin of Washington says that "webbed feet, missing toes and flat feet" will not keep men out of active army service. But this doesn't stop Mayor LaGuardia from trying to get special exemption for every city flatfoot.

Letters from Our Readers

Overcrowded Subways—A Menace to Our Health

Dear Sir:

The ugliness, the Moloch-like disregard of the welfare of the people under capitalism reflects itself in a million ways. As a subway-goer each morning and evening, this scar on the people's lives shows its pus in a disgusting manner.

Think of it. Millions of people travel in the subways every day. Like virtual cattle they are tossed and herded about recklessly to and from work. Their comfort means nothing at all to the Transportation Board of the City of New York: their health and safety means less. Jammed so close that it is difficult to breathe, pushed and shoved and throttled as though they were so many nickels to be counted by greedy profiteers, the people of the City of New York see one of the inhuman symptoms of capitalism in action daily. I have seen a woman injured, a man faint, an elderly lady carried out of a subway car. Why must hundreds of thousands face this discomfort, must often face this threat to their safety? The answer lies in the system itself.

Yes, capitalism juts its vicious shadow upon the people's lives in a million ways. To the people of New

New York, N. Y.

York, forced to travel in crowded subways, this shadow is but one phase of a system that would crush and throttle them just as it callously does in the subways itself.

The final solution to this problem, like with every other under the capitalist system, is control by the people. The dignity of man, the safety of man, the very future of man, depends on it. M. K.

"Shelley On Freedom"

New York, N. Y.

Editor, Daily Worker:

Mike Gold's ironical question: "What, did you think democracy had anything to do with your bread and butter, your tenements, or the baby's milk?" reminded me forcibly of an extraordinary definition of freedom given by the poet Shelley more than a century ago.

The lines are still fresh and true and alive, especially where the poet declares that the loveliness of freedom must be expressed in deeds, not merely in words. Here is realism and materialism incisively put by one who is officially classified as a "romantic" poet:

"For the laborer thou art bread
And a comely table spread,
From his daily labor come
In a neat and happy home."

"Thou art clothes, and fire, and food
For the trampled multitude;
No—in countries that are free
Such starvation cannot be
As in England now we see." E. W.

Capitalist Press Ignored Fine Books on Loyalist Spain—Laud Slanderous One—Reader

Brooklyn, N. Y.

Editor, Daily Worker:

I second Ruth McKenney's suggestion to get out a penny pamphlet with the articles she mentioned in answer to Ernest Hemingway's "For Whom the Bell Tolls" and sell it on the street.

All this fuss over a fake picture of the Spanish Civil War only shows how the enemies of democracy love and publicize a renegade no matter how they lie. A true story like "In Place of Splendor," by a Spanish woman, Constanza de La Mora; "The Lincoln Battalion," by Rolfe, and all the other fine books on Spain didn't get half the publicity in the capitalist press.

I think what Hemingway did is about the lowest thing a man can do—watch the crucifixion of a heroic people, then come home and slander them. L. M.

The Greatest Naval Battle in the World

By Mike Quin

"Tell me, Murphy, what is democracy?" asked Mr. O'Brien.

"'Tis the right of free-born men to govern themselves," said Mr. O'Brien.

"Then where does the Ford Motor Company or the Standard Oil Company fit in to democracy?"

"None whatever, O'Brien. Not a dime's worth, not a nickel's worth, not a penny's worth."

"But according to them, Murphy, democracy is their right to own as much property or wealth as they can get their hands on and rule over it with as much authority as an ancient Caesar. It doesn't make sense."

"They love democracy, O'Brien, as long as they can rule over it through their lobbies and stooges. But as soon as the people take hold of things and start using the ballot box to vote themselves pay raises, they lose interest in democracy and start believing for fascism. That's what happened in Spain."

'Tis But A Navel

"Tell me, Murphy, why shouldn't we own the earth together and operate it democratically? There is plenty of oil and land and iron and cotton and lumber and tools and anything you can name. And we produced all these things by our own labor. Why shouldn't we own it all together?"

"We do own it all, O'Brien."

"Don't be foolish, Murphy. 'Tis all owned and partitioned off by the various millionaires and we have to work they'll give us work or we can't live."

"How come they own it, O'Brien?"

"That they have the papers—the deeds and all."

"And suppose we tear up the papers or burn them?"

"You can't do that, Murphy. You'd have no way of telling what belonged to who."

"Yes you would, O'Brien. Murphy pulled out his shirt and exposed his navel."

"What the devil is this?" asked O'Brien.

"'Tis the secret of economics and sociology," said Murphy. "Every living person who's born has one, but few indeed know what it is."

"'Tis but a navel," said O'Brien.

"That is where you are mistaken," said Murphy. "The capitalist propagandists would have us think it is no more than that. In reality it is our proof of birth—the supreme signature and seal of nature."

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Filmed on the Field of Battle

'Mannerheim Line' Shows Mettle of Soviet Red Army

THE MANNERHEIM LINE, produced by Leningrad Newswire Studios. Photographed by Blashkov, Shurin, Dobrinski, Zagan, Ordanikoff, Paly, Shumov, Stavin Ushitel, Pomin and Shulatin. Edited by Blashkov, Yartovskoy, Komarovsky, Soloviyev. Military Consultant: Brigade Commander Kromov. At the Miami Playhouse.

By David Platt

"The Mannerheim Line" is a remarkable record of the first large-scale military campaign in modern times fought near the Arctic Circle. It is a monument to the might of the Red Army of the U.S.S.R. who, on Feb. 11, 1940 broke through what military authorities considered one of the most impregnable fortresses in history. It is the definitive answer to the newscasters and the "typewriter generals" who annihilated the Red Army with Finnish snowballs day after day from the beginning to the end of the war.

The Mannerheim Line, as disclosed by the film now showing at the Miami Playhouse consisted of 343 steel and concrete forts and 2,267 earth and stone fortifications protected by thousands of pieces of artillery, tank traps, hidden mines, barbed wire entanglements electrically charged plus every other imaginable implement of modern warfare. It all fell under the pressure of the Red Army after a direct attack lasting only two weeks. With it crashed all the hopes of the imperialist powers for an attack on the Soviet Union through the far North where the Finnish border was only eighteen miles from Leningrad, second largest city in the U.S.S.R.

Not Filmed In A Studio

Eleven courageous cameramen photographed the activities of the Red Army on the Karelian Isthmus from November, 1939 to March, 1940. From the snow-capped titles at the beginning of the film to the victorious march of the Red Army through the streets of Leningrad a few months later, "The Mannerheim Line" commands one's attention.

This film is a simple, moving document entirely devoid of the sensational and yet it deals with one of the most sensational military exploits in the annals of modern warfare. The Red Army in its campaign on the Karelian Isthmus reduced the most complex operations to their simplest terms and the result is a simple, clear, dramatic record of what actually happened. The film has no posed shots like you will find in so many of the Hollywood "studio" films about war. No faked shots were inserted later



Two scenes from "The Mannerheim Line." At top, a Soviet bomber is loaded. Above, Soviet and Finnish (center) officers discussing the new border demarcations on cessation of hostilities.

on in the editing. There was no need and no time for embellishment. Frequently, the cameramen who were good fighters as well as good photographers were so close to the line of fire, one can see the bullets whistling about them in the snow. I have seen many newscasters on war but never any shot like that. The film is dramatic every step of the way because it is full of such unposed scenes—scenes that could never possibly be duplicated in the studio.

But the most striking thing about "The Mannerheim Line" is

the nine months ending Sept. 30. Pathe owns duPont. The trouble with these small companies is you can never tell when they're going to muscle in on an old established firm. But that's a risk you have to take. If you've got ten million dollars.

As for Paramount. They're practical. They got Y. Frank Freeman, who's got quite a name around and he's been running the company and, by the way, the producers' association. In the first nine months of the year, Freeman's outfit took five millions profit. It might be \$6,000,000 by the first of the year.

It Comes From Here

Extra earnings will probably fall from 1939's average of \$317.26. Figuring roughly, average extra earnings for the first 11 months of 1940 were around \$300. The outlook for the unskilled workers of the acting profession isn't exactly what one would call bright. Earnings now are around \$700,000 less than they were in 1939.

The black-link slingers in the front office decided also that if democracy was to be defended (in light of the loss of foreign markets) they'd have to do something about directors. About the directors of epic and features, they couldn't do much. But about the directors of the Bs. Well...

Directors of the Bs are no longer on salaries but are on "flat deals." Some used to make \$1,350 for one picture. Now, they're being offered \$600 to \$700 on, as Hollywood Reporter has it, a "take-it-or-leave-it basis." Other companies ditto. The directors of the lesser opt are up that creek.

J. Cheever Chowdin, whose name sounds like the soup course in Ciro's, was much hotter than said soup course when he announced that Universal Picture's net earnings will reach \$2,400,000 for 1940.

J. Cheever Chowdin also sounds like the heavy in a Mike Quin serial. Especially when he sits in the New York office by courtesy of Standard Capital Company (which he also heads) and issues lengthy manifestos on how he's pulled Universal out of the red.

Yes, this is a business for an enterprising young man. The enterprising young man, however, will have to starve if he's looking for a job. There's little future in the working end of the business. But an enterprising, ambitious young man... well, an enterprising, ambitious young man can get ahead. If he's got ten million dollars.

Warner, along with the others, are due to give each actor every wage earner in the industry a stronger sock in the purse. "Economy" is the theme song. Every producer knows the words, tune and harmony. Nothing off key there.

Figures might make dull reading, but they speak louder than words as Columbia Pictures can tell you. After paying off all and sundry who owned a piece of the company, the string pullers of Columbia

chaiked up \$153,878 profit for the quarter ending in September this year. In the same quarter last year, the boys "lost" \$104,781.

Pathe Film Corp., which "owns" some of duPont Film Manufacturing Co., took profits of \$215,188 for

Cameramen Risk Lives in Taking Films on Spot

the rich pictorial evidence of the humanity of the Red Army. It is the very thing one finds missing in the newscasters and documentaries of the imperialist wars. This is a different kind of war and it is a different kind of film. In a Socialist State the soldiers know what they are fighting for.

"The Mannerheim Line" is a record of the slow but methodical advance of the mechanized units of the Red Army over a land covered with forests and lakes—a land fraught with danger at every step. The temperature ranged from 30 to 40 degrees below zero throughout the war. To add to this, all along the line the Finnish White Guards had planted high explosives deep in the snow. These had to be detected and removed by engineers armed with magnetic devices for locating concealed mines.

The mines were later used to destroy the thousands of tank-traps made out of triangular shaped rock that barred every mile of the way. The enemy had destroyed all the bridges. These had to be re-built. Uprooted railroad tracks had to be replaced. Wooden roads had to be built across marshes to permit troops to cross. Ways had to be found to get the heavy convoys across the thin ice.

A Desperate Tricky Enemy

The Finnish White Guard army was a desperate, tricky enemy. In retreating they forced the villagers to burn all the homes, slaughter all the cattle. The towns surrendered by the enemy were a mass of ruins. The film compares this to the villages occupied by the Red Army and it is the difference between a butcher and a liberator.

One of the most remarkable things in the film is a complete chart of the Mannerheim Line and its defenses. It is one of the most amazing charts I have ever seen. It resembles the structure of the human body with veins running this way, arteries that way and every bone and muscle creating a magnificent and complex spectacle of organic motion.

Well, the Red Army of the Soviet Union conquered this tremendous fortress on which the imperialist governments had lavished so much gold. Every tank and every gun captured bore the trademark of France, Britain and Germany. It showed clearly and conclusively, who began the war and who hoped to profit from it. Now the Northern gateway to the Soviet Union is closed forever.

Well, this is the epic story of "Retreat to Pleasure." Upon this frail scaffolding Mr. Shaw has attempted to erect a lot of periphery about capitalists and how it is their fault that things are so bad. He also remarks—via Peter and Norah—that you can't believe anyone is hungry in Ohio when you are in Miami Beach.

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THE BOWL TEAMS: No Hipper Dipper For Texas A. & M.

Kimbrough Led Aggies Are Powerful Ground Team, as Fordham Will Discover in Cotton Bowl

[Second of a series discussing football teams which will play in New Year's Day bowl games. TOMORROW: Fordham.]

The Texas Aggies, who meet Fordham in the Dallas Cotton Bowl, are the exact opposite of what one has come to expect of a team from the Southwest—a straight-ahead, driving combination that scores tricky plays and relies chiefly on power.

The Aggies rolled over eight opponents before being stopped, 7-0, by Texas in the final game of the season.

Despite that defeat, which snapped the Aggies 19-game winning streak, this team from College Station was one of the great eleven of 1940.

It's a veteran combination, with 10 seniors on the starting team and All-American and All-Conference players liberally sprinkled up and down the line-up.

The football which coach Homer Norton teaches is run from the double wing or box formation. At times the Aggies use deep punt formations and run a pass or a run off a fake. They use a balanced line without a shift after coming out of the huddle. On defense they have four or five stock patterns designed to fit what is thrown against them. Five and six-man lines depend on what the other team is doing. The Aggies use a minimum of plays and it was mostly smart quarterbacking and team spirit that enabled them to run up their great record.

If the Aggies can be said to have any weaknesses in view of their record, they must be that that are a little off on pass defense and appear to be a "one-man team."

Over the full season, the opposi-

40 Record

| | |
|------------------|----------------|
| Texas A. & M.—26 | Tex. A. & L.—0 |
| " 41 | Tulsa—6 |
| " 7 | U.C.L.A.—0 |
| " 21 | Tex. Chris.—7 |
| " 14 | Baylor—7 |
| " 17 | Arkansas—0 |
| " 19 | S. M. U.—7 |
| " 25 | Rice—0 |
| " 0 | Texas—7 |
| TOTALS ... 170 | 28 |

tion made only 387 yards rushing and 908 passing. Passing may decide the Cotton Bowl game because Steve Filipowicz of Fordham is one of the best throwers in the business and the Aggies will have to stop him if they hope to halt Fordham.

Star of the team is "Jarrin" John Kimbrough, All-American fullback. Kimbrough carried the ball 161 times, gained 671 yards and lost 54 for a net gain of 333 yards per carry. He also was high scorer with 42 points. He can run over, through and under a line and is a good passer, as well.

Pugh, according to his teammates, was more valuable than Kimbrough. His selection of plays, his ability to gain an average of 4.10 yards a try himself, and his passing and quick-kicking made him the team's key man. Their only game when he was out of the Texas game.

WHAT'S ON

Tonight
BATES: What's On notices for the Daily and Sunday Worker are 35c per line (4 words to a line—lines minimum). DEADLINE: Daily at 12 Noon. Friday, 5 P.M. Friday.

GALA STARS FOR CHINA and DANCE

Featuring:
* EARL ROBINSON
* WILL GEER
* MORDECAI BAUMAN
* Phil Leeds and Troupe
* Ledbelly — Woody and others

Sat., Dec. 21st

At 8:30 P.M.

HOTEL DIPLOMAT

TICKETS: 50c in advance—50c at door. Sold at 100 W. 2nd St.

Assp.: MARITIME CHAPTER, American Friends of the Chinese People

"SONG OF YOUTH" "Smiler" Chaplin cartoon. Don't miss seeing them at 130 Glenmore Ave., 7 P.M. Subs. 25c. Children 15c.

Tomorrow

WPA DIVISION — Workers Alliance — Party and dance! Workers Workshop Studio, 4 W. 18th St. Entertainment—Fun! Subs. 25c.

Coming
TEACHERS UNION DANCE, Sat. Night, Dec. 21st, Mecca Temple, 132 W. 50th St. Music—Modern Swingsters, TAC Show, Laura Duncan, Ledbelly, Paris "Wholesome Mikado." Tickets 50c in advance, 75c at door. Local No. 435, 28 W. 21st St.

AMERICAN YOUTH THEATRE offers exciting show and dance featuring "A Peace of Our Mind," a new musical revue. Saturday and Sunday Eve., Dec. 21st and 22nd, and through Saturday ending Jan. 26th. Main Studio, 132 W. 44th St. Subscribers get tickets in advance. BENEFIT CONCERT: Heckscher Foundation, 194th St. and 4th Ave. Sunday, Dec. 22nd, 8:30 P.M. Wen Talbert Quartet, Dudley Dance Group, and others. Admission, 50c, 25c, 15c.

SCHOOL REGISTRATION

BALLROOM DANCE lessons, class and private. Workers' rates. Registration daily 3-6 P.M. Pillars Dance Group, 430 4th Ave. 1 Night up. OR, 4-5050.

DAILY CLASSES: Modern Dance, Reducing, all ballroom dances. Morale, 108 4th Ave. (12th). OR, 4-1903.

SPORTS DAILY WORKER SPORTS

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1940

FELLER LEADS IN EVERYTHING

Well Almost, Anyhow, AL Pitching Records Reveal

Never within the recent history of baseball has one man so completely dominated his specialty as has Cleveland's talented young right-hander Robert Feller, whose brilliant hurling during the past season according to official American League statistics released today brought him the leadership in practically every pitching department.

Starting with the most effective performance in the game, a no-hit, no-run classic twirled against Chicago on April 16 in the Windy City Rapid Robert speedballed his way to winning the most games in the American League, 27; striking out the most batters for the third straight year, 261, and taking second in earned run efficiency with

2.62 run average for 43 games to Ernie Bonham of the Yankees sensational rookie who appeared in only 12 contests to establish a total of 1.91 runs per game. The Indian star also pitched in the most games, hurling a total of 330 innings the most in the League. His 31 complete games were the highest total in the League as were also the 1,168 batters that he faced. Ken Chase, the Senator southpaw, with 143 walks beat Feller's record of 142 made last year. Bobby was third with 118 free tickets this season.

The fact that Cleveland lost the pennant despite the sterling performance of Feller and the rest of the staff which achieved the lowest team earned run average for the year, 3.65 per game, is partly explained by the showing of World Newsom, the Detroit Tiger's World Series hero, who with 21 victories, was the only other AL mound worker to win 20 games. In the lost column Buck lost only five times to amass a percentage of .508, topping Bobby by .97. For the third straight year Newsom placed second to Feller in strikeouts. Early in the season, after losing the opening game, Bobo ran up a winning streak of 13 games which was finally broken when he was hurt and lost to the Athletics in 11 innings on July 28.

WOTTA MAN!
Besides the no-hitter he twirled, Feller also tossed a one-hitter, a two-hitter, three three-hitters, two four-hitters and tied with Ted Lyons, Chicago White Sox, Teammate Al Milnar, and Red Rufus Ruffing, Yankees, for the shutout leadership with four.

Among the achievements which the Cleveland prodigy didn't come close on were the most passes issued in one game — White Sox rookie Vellie Eaves handing out 12 walks to the Tigers in 7 2/3 innings in his first major league start on April 22. Al Smith, Indians and the Yankee Euzenon Chandler took the doubtful distinction of hitting the most batters with a pitched ball by pelting a half a dozen each.

Dutch Leonard, Washington, and George Carter, Philadelphia, were deadlocked in the negative race for heaviest loser with 19 setbacks apiece. The Nats' fine knuckler managed to win 14 with an ERA of 3.49 while Carter was inglorious with only four wins on a 6.57 ERA. One person who breathed easier when the season ended was young Walter Masterson, Senators, who was prevented from extending his consecutive string of 12 losses further.

Following the Indians in earned run effectiveness were the White Sox, Yankees and Tigers. The A's were a thumping last.

—JACK JULES.

The Ball Rolled Round and Round --NYU Won, 40-39

But There Was Plenty of Glory for a Great Brooklyn Team Which Put Itself Up With the Nation's Best

The figures pretty well tell the story of that game between NYU and Brooklyn that rocked University Heights Tuesday night. 40-39 favor NYU. 11 Field goals and 18 fouls for the winner. 16 field goals and 7 fouls for the losers.

The story they tell is mostly about Brooklyn. Everybody knew that NYU, with four of the veterans back from last year's "Wonder Five" would have a great team, but everybody wasn't yet convinced that the upstarts from the Borough of Dodgers were as sensational as their early season play had indicated. Well, there's no doubt about Brooklyn belonging in the highest court bracket now. They went up to the NYU gym and outscored talented Violets from the field in losing by one point. Surely no one can claim that NYU was caught off guard. They had been expecting trouble. And incidentally if Manhattan and Fordham rate ten appearances in the Garden, it seems as if Ari Muscat's fine team rates scheduling in the big place too.

As for the game, there's always a tendency to say that the team which scored more field goals and yet lost "should have won." Which isn't completely fair. It must be remembered that the ability to step to the foul line in the middle of bedlam and drop the ball through as though it were a practice shot is part of the game. Also let it be remembered that the fact that the NYU players got 25 opportunities to shoot fouls to Brooklyn 18 means that they were fouled more often, and it must be assumed that the players who were fouled often had a chance to score from the field.

There are off nights and on nights in fouls. Maybe if they played next week again the Kingsmen would drop the majority of their fouls. If they did they would beat NYU, for there was no fluke about their greater proficiency from the field. There was more pattern and cohesion to their attack, as Kasper scored off the pivot with either hand after the ball had been well worked in, and Mariashin dropped them from outside like an automaton. The latter, who also dribbles underneath for a couple of beauties, scored 16 points for night's high.

Back the long weary way on the IRT went the huge delegation from Brooklyn, with the pretty cheer leaders and some of the boys just about in tears. But their team had nothing to be ashamed of. It did everything but beat one of the nation's crackerjack teams, and put itself right up with the best in the land, without any more doubts.

The gym doors were locked at 8 P.M. leaving out hundreds from Brooklyn who indignantly waved tickets at the unimpressed cops. When they heard that their team ahead early in the first quarter it was too much to bear. A bunch of the boys sneaked around the back and broke through another door to pour in and dissolve themselves in the crowd before the cops could get around. ... RODNEY.

THE ROUND UP:

Bettina Back in Scramble; LIU Record; Jurges' Return Doubtful; Sez Oom Paul

By Jack Jules

Mello Bettina, Beacon battler, convincingly demonstrated his right to another chance at the soon-to-be-vacated light heavyweight title by easily outpointing Solly Krieger at the Broadway Arena, Tuesday night. With Billy Conn graduating to the heavyweights to challenge Joe Louis there will be a four cornered scramble for the diadem involving Jimmy Webb and Tommy Tucker, already scheduled to fight for the New York title on Feb. 28 in the Garden, and Christy, an undefeated Greek fighter invading this country, in a tentative bout, with Bettina. All this speculation is contingent on the NRA withholding recognition of the Webb-Tucker title tussle, however.

At the Bronx Coliseum Bobby Ruffin, Astoria lightweight, came back strong to defeat Terry Young, East Side, despite two sizzling rights with which previously undefeated Terry rocked him in the opening stanza. In the semi-final Ernie Vigh, Newburg, N. Y., stopped Gene Molnar, Bronx, cold in the eighth round for his 35th KO in fifty fights.

A bad decision chalked up the first defeat for Aaron Seltzer, Hi-Ho Silver getting the booted decision.

Out of town Nathan Mann managed to keep in the heavyweight picture by outpointing Henry Moros, of New York, in New Haven. In White Plains Julie Kogon, New Haven lightweight, decisioned Julio Gonzalez of Puerto Rico in eight rounds.

An enterprising Blackbird press agent dug up these surprising facts about the Beemen. ... That LIU only committed one personal foul in the second half of the Oregon contest for what may be a record for Garden play. ... That Dolly (the great) King scored a net shot from way out in the field for the first time in his life in that same game. Dolly usually tosses the two pointers through the pivot slot or from the side. ...

Paul Derringer has been quoted as wishing the Red Sox would be the American League entry when the Reds show up for their third straight world series. We wonder

JENKINS ONE OF GREAT HITTERS

Only Inability to Take Will Keep Him from Top Ranking

Lew Jenkins, lightweight champ who meets welter king Fritz Zivie at the Garden tomorrow night, rates with the really good punchers of fistic history despite an amazingly frail appearance.

On his dynamic knockout record since he started to eat right about a year ago, the lean-armed Texan ranks with such devastating hitters of the past as Aurelio Herrera, Young Otto, Jimmy McLarnin, Leach Cross, Ruby Goldstein, Willie Jackson, Charley White.

Jenkins can deal out the finisher with either left or right. He kept Primo Flores, Mike Belloue, Billy Marquart and Tippy Larkin with right handers, and his left did the main dirty work against Lew Ambers and Pete Lello. As a savage finisher he has no equal in the ring today. When he gets a man going he doesn't let him get away.

What will keep Lew from going down the fistic greats is the fact that he can't take it as well as he can dish it out, especially in the stomach. And you can expect to see Zivie aim plenty for that very small Jenkins midsection.—L. R.

It was a wild affair, with the score tied eight times and Brooklyn ahead four times. The largest margin NYU got was a three-point edge. They led 40-37 with a minute to go, mainly by virtue of Mort Lazar's sensational shooting. Mort was hot in the second half and Kaplowitz was sizzling in the first half. Auerbach showed to advantage in spurts. Never losing his poise and drive, the Brooklyn team crashed through in that last minute, getting the ball to Kasper, who dropped one in to make it 40-39 and was fouled in the attempt. His potentially tying foul shot must have been staged by Hollywood. It hung on the little extension between the basket and backboard for a minute, and as one side and then another of the packed gym alternately cheered and groaned, rolled round the rim, dipped in and finally dropped out.

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Manhattan used its whole squad in beating St. Peters 42-28. ... Johnny Kravetz, apparently headed for his greatest year, scored 22 points ... a travelling Rice team upset Southern California. ... The Texans will be in the Garden Christmas week against LIU. ...

NYU gets its final workout before the Garden test when it meets the Montclair Teachers at the Heights Gym ... nothing like the Brooklyn game is expected ... the reserves, Payne, Davidoff, Schuman, et al, will be worked to gain poise for the Syracuse game.

On The Score Board

A Chat With Champion Fritz Zivie

By LESTER RODNEY

Fritz Zivie, welterweight champion of two months' standing, was getting ready to leave his hotel room for Stillman's Gym and the last workout before tomorrow night's non-title fight with lightweight champ Lew Jenkins. Fritz, you recall, is the flat-nosed boy from Pittsburgh who took the championship away from Henry Armstrong in a grueling fifteen-round battle which ended with the great Negro batter dropping to the canvas for the first time in his career. In his second New York appearance Fritz figured in that riotous bit of culture with Bumby Davis which ended with the latter being disqualified for fouling in the second round.

You'd imagine from his two New York appearances that this 26-year-old Pittsburgh boy would be pretty tough. He is. Here's what he had to say about the fight with the hard-hitting Texan tomorrow.

"A lot of people think I'm not a knockout puncher. All they talk about is Jenkins' punch. Well, I'm going to step right out and punch with him. And flatten him. If he happens to knock me down I'll be coming up again, don't worry. I can take a punch. Didn't I take fifteen rounds of a puncher like Armstrong? Henry was too much for Jenkins. See, I was fighting mostly around Pittsburgh and a lot of New Yorkers didn't think I was so much. Armstrong was 4-1 favorite over me. But you look back at my record and you'll see I can hit and always could."

The record shows that Zivie has had about 150 fights of which he's won about 135. He's knocked out a goodly number of his foes, and back in '35 broke rugged Lou Ambers' jaw with a right hook.

"I read in Jimmy Powers' column where if I traded with Jenkins he'd knock me into the mezzanine," said Fritz with a grin. "They even had a drawing of me flying."

"Yes, I've been tagged by a very hard hitter. To tell you the truth, Lester, I was knocked out in Chicago by Milly Aron. I was on my knee after he hit me and got up just at ten. They said it was too late. But I was never out cold. And I'm a much improved fighter now."

Now They Know He's Good

"Do you feel like a better fighter when you step in there now that you're champ?"

"Yeah, you know how it is. Before, I knew I was a good fighter all the time but now I know that everybody else knows it and I feel good about it."

Fritz is the youngest of six brothers, all of whom took to the ring. Of Croatian descent, the Zivie boys lived in the most wretched slum district of Pittsburgh.

"My father was a steel worker," Fritz recalled, we never had any dough in the house. Things were much tougher for steel workers then. No union or anything like that. He worked a 12-hour shift and didn't get too much. He died in '31. I guess he never figured the youngest kid would get to be champ. Billy Conn's father's a steel worker too, you know."

About That 'Tradition'

How about the Zivie "fistic tradition," I asked him. Is it true as popularly supposed that he decided to become a fighter early to follow in the footsteps of his fistic brethren?

Fritz shook his head no. "To be honest, I never seriously considered fighting for a living till I was 20. Hell, I was married already then and everything. But there was no dough to be made. I tried hard enough. So I started to fight. Of course I'd boxed around a lot with my brothers for fun. That's the way it was with all the boys. I even tried going into business for myself first," he recalled with a laugh. "It wasn't funny then, though. It was the cleaning business. One night I delivered a suit to a friend of mine. How much, he asks. A buck, I says. Can you wait till payday Friday, Fritz, he asks? Well, I could use the dough pretty bad for supper, but I tell him O.K. I'm on the way down the stairs when he calls me back. I go back three at a time, thinking I eat after all. So he asks me if I can lend him two bucks till payday. I quit the cleaning business that night."

Fritz has hardly found the ring any bed of roses. Early in his career he caught a tremendous butt on the nose that broke it badly. The bone was extracted. It works the same as any nose now, but has that flattened look.

How long does he expect to keep fighting now?

"Oh, I don't know. I feel pretty good, and I'm in time for some fair money now that I'm better known as a good fighter here. If Armstrong decides to go through with the return bout with me I'll give him the chance to get the title back. I'll knock him out sure next time, though. Maybe he oughtn't come back. He was one of the greatest ever."

"I'll tell you a funny thing. I think I can beat Ken Overlin. Yeah, I know he's a middleweight. But I saw that Belloue fight and I know I could beat him. Stevey's a kid, let all that feinting and mugging fool him. He didn't fight his right fight. I got the experience to know how to handle him. And he couldn't hurt me."

Well, maybe. But Mr. Jenkins promised to be a handful tomorrow night in the main event. "Do you feel good? Any after effects from the Davis fouling?"

Bumby Didn't Hurt Him

Fritz shook his head emphatically. "No, I wasn't really hurt that night. You know how it is, they rush you to the dressing room and tell you to lay down and the doc looks at you. Hell, I could've gone right out in the street and kicked the guts out of him. He's no fighter. That first round? See how fast I started? I'm really a fast starter, in the Armstrong fight I was just pacing myself. Oh, you mean did I foul him? No, nothing like what he tried to do. I pulled him around and hit him once. I was just giving him a lesson in infighting and he knew he was going to be knocked out."

There's none of the Hollywood royal purple about this champion. He's fast talking, completely unaffected, tough and honest. Not the greatest welterweight champion the ring has ever seen by a long shot, but a pretty typical American fight whamp withal.

Off the Backboard

NYU squeezed past Brooklyn all right Tuesday night, but had a little worry added to their Garden debut of Saturday night against Syracuse when Big Paul Kartlue scored no less than 27 points as the undefeated Orange beat St. Lawrence 64-34.

St. Johns, which meets Oklahoma in the second game of Saturday's twin bill, warmed up by beating Montclair State Teachers 61-42. Jimmy White the Redmen's all city forward, scored 17 points. Bob Tough, sophomore starter, scored ten, and Dutch Garfinkle did a little shooting to drop four field goals.

The participants in last week's twin bill kept to their Garden form in Philly as Oregon lost to Temple 45-42 and the smooth Oklahoma Aggies routed what had been rated a good St. Josephs team, 40-26. ... Bill King showed his All City form as LIU trimmed Wittenberg of Ohio 58-38 for its fifth straight. ... He scored 15 and Lobello tallied 13. ... In the freshman game the super terrific Blackbird youngsters beat St. Marks Church 69-13 with Stan Waxman tallying 20 points. ... the kids would probably make a shambles of the Ivy League race, just to give you an idea. ...

by del

LITTLE LEFTY'S CARTOONNEWS

Sees Peace Ahead for Capital, Labor

By ALLEN KIRK.

World-Famous Staff Writer.

The high tide of conflict between capital and labor has been passed in this country and coming years will bring most peaceful relations.

This prophet was made today by Henry H. Heilmann, executive manager of the National Assn. of Chain Store Retailers who is not afraid of the future even though he recognizes the current antagonism of the two groups.



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